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Capt Thos. Foley.

6th March 1871.

A STATEMENT
OF THE
CLAIMS AND PRIVILEGES
OF
Her Majesty's Body Guard
OF
THE HONORABLE CORPS OF
GENTLEMEN AT ARMS,

FORWARDED TO THE LORD CHAMBERLAIN,

BY THE CAPTAIN, LORD FOLEY, *Thomas Henry Foley of the House*

(IN OBEDIENCE TO HER MAJESTY'S COMMANDS.)

28 JUNE, 1851.

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BATH: PRINTED BY WILLIAM LEWIS.

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HENRY VIII.

THE Band of Pensioners or Speres was constituted by King Henry VIII. in 1509, as a Royal Body Guard, in confirmation of which, Hall the Chronicler states more than once, "the Kynge ordeined fiftie gentlemenne to bee Speres, every of them to have an Archer, a Demilaunce, and a Castrel, and every Spere to have three greate horses to bee attendaunte on his persone," &c. The Band was composed of Cadets of noble families, and of the higher order of gentry, according to "certain Ordinances and Statutes devised and signed by the King's Majesty for a Retineue of Speres or Men of Arms, to be chosen of Gentlemen that be common, and Extract of Noble Blood. With a form of their Othe." (See *Appendix*, No. 1.)

This is to be found among the Manuscript Addenda to the Museum copy of the Cottonian Library, and with the Yeomen of the Guard is the oldest military body in the kingdom.

King Henry VII., at his Coronation in 1485, had instituted a body of fifty Archers, under the title of Yeomen of the Guard; but Henry VIII., not contented with an escort of Yeomen, established, at the instance of Sir W. Compton, according to Hoyd, in his "Worthies," this new and sumptuous Troop of Gentlemen, composed of Cadets of noble families and the higher order of gentry, to attend his personal service.

In the year 1520 the Gentlemen Pensioners or Spears attended their Royal Master to the Field of Cloth of Gold between Guines and Andres, as his Body Guard, and are conspicuous in competing with the Noble Garde du Corps of the French King, a Corps similarly constituted.

In 1526 the Corps is described in the Household Statutes made at Eltham, as complete, and fully officered, the officers being Captain, Lieutenant, Standard Bearer, Clerk of the Cheque,

and Harbinger. About this period the battle axe was introduced, and the Corps began to do duty on foot in the Court, as well as on horseback in the Field, using the battle axe for chamber service, and the spear when mounted.

In 1539, on the ceremonial of the Reception of the Princess Ann of Cleves, when her Royal Highness was received with great state by the King and his suite on Blackheath, at the foot of Shooters' Hill, the Gentlemen Pensioners are again very conspicuous. Her Royal Highness was accommodated in a rich pavilion till the King and his train arrived, who was accompanied by the Corporation of London, Knights, and Esquires. Holinshed, the historian, states that the King was attended by the fifty Gentlemen Pensioners, and that behind them stood the serving men (the Constills) in good order, well horsed and apparelled, so that, as the old chronicler has it,

“Who so euer had well viewed them might haue said that they for tall and comelie personages, and cleane of lim and bodie, were able to

give the greatest Prince in Christendome a mortall breakfast, if he had beene the King'semie."

"In this order rode the King till he came to the last end of the ranke of the Pensioners, and there euerie person that came with him placed himselfe on the one side or the other, the King standing in the midst."

In this manner the interview took place, after which the Pensioners, with the Guard, departed to furnish the Hall at Greenwich. Here again the Band was on duty when the King and his intended Queen arrived there, for "below the hearth in the Hall were placed the Yeomen of the Guard, and above the hearth the fifty Pensioners, with their battle axes." The Band thus served as a Royal Body Guard to the King on horseback in the Field, and immediately afterwards on foot in the Hall at the Palace at Greenwich.

Soon after this the following Order was issued by His Majesty to grant the Band the liberty of Quarterly Waiting:—

The Order.

“Whereas it hath pleased the King’s Majesty, at the special sute of Anthony Browne, Knighte and Captaine of His Majesty’s Gentlemen Penconers, to graunte and enlarge His Highnes’ said Penconers to the libtie of Quarter-Waiters, by the cheque as is in an Article before mentioned, so that continually th’one half of them shall be attendaunt without any excuse of sickness or otherwise, but that he or they that shall fortune to be sicke, or have any other lett within his said Quarter, shall, for the time of his absence, fynde one of his Companye that shall be oute of his Quarter, to waite upon the King’s Majesty, and to furnishe his place, or ells to be in daunger of the check, and the other halfe, for the meane tyme of their half yere, so by the quarter to be taken att their libertye.

“Item. The whole Band of the said Gentlemen Penconers, at the fouer principall Feasts of the yere, that is to saye, Christmas, Ester, Whit-

sontid, Alhollontyd, shall give their attendaunce under check as they now doe.

“Item. In consideracon whereof, whereas nowe they are bounded to the findinge of twoe greate horses only, they shall each one from henceforth keep three horses furnished accordingly.

“Item. Notwithstanding this graunte of libtie, they be neverthelesse at all tymes in such a readynes that when warninge shall be given unto them from the Officers above them, they, and every of them, shall, accordynge to the same, repaire to the Courte, and give such attendaunce for the tyme as shall be appointed unto them usinge for that seassone, be it in their Quarter or otherwise, no lesse deligence than they doe at the present, as apptaynethe.”

During the remainder of this reign the Gentlemen Pensioners appear to have attended the King on all occasions in their Military as well as Civil capacity. Thus, according to Lord Herbert, they escorted his Majesty at his grand entrée into Boulogne, after it was taken in 1544, clad in complete armour, with the Earl of Essex

at their head; while, according to another writer (Strype), they served with the King at the siege of that city, including a Retinue to each Pensioner of three men at arms all mounted "on barded horses in one suit of red and yellow damask, the bards of their horses and plumes of feathers being of the same colors."

A complete Muster Roll of the whole Band, with the amount of their pay, is to be found in the Statutes of Eltham in 1526.

EDWARD VI.

In the reign of Edward VI., frequent mention is made of the Band, even by the King himself, in his own Journal, printed in Bishop Burnett's "History of the Reformation," vol. 2.

The Pensioners first appear in the Procession from the Tower to Westminster, on the day preceding the Coronation, when "the Pensioners and Men of Armes, with their pole axes, went on either side the way on foote." By this arrangement they were placed at proper distances

—so that the King might be in the centre of the Band of Pensioners.

On the day of the Coronation the King landed in the morning at the Privy Stairs, escorted by the “Pensioners apparelled all in red damaske, with their pole axes in their hands,” and in the procession to the Abbey they followed the Peers in the rear, immediately before the Yeomen of the Guard.

In this reign the Band was actively employed, as will appear from a Grand Muster of all the King’s Standing Forces and men of Armes. An account of this General Muster is taken partly from the King’s Journal, as well as from a MS. in the Cottonian Library, printed in Strype’s Memorials, vol. 2, p. 290. It took place in 1551, when the King’s Band of Pensioners mustered under the Royal Banner, the other Bands under the banners of their respective commanders.

According to Strype, vol. 2, page 184, “The King was now minded to see his standing forces, horse and foot, muster before him,
 and a letter was dispatched to the

Marquis of Northampton, the Captain of the Band of Pensioners, to have the Band appointed in readiness, with all the Pensioners and Men of Arms attending on the Court."

In Hyde Park there was a great muster in the King's presence, after this manner:—

"First came the King's Trumpeters, then the Lord Bray, in gilt harness, commanding the Pensioners, and a great banner of the King's Arms ; then all the Pensioners, in complete harness and great array, in white and black, five and five in a rank. And after them came their servants, in number an hundred, with great horses and harness, in white and black, with spears."

Edward VI. received much satisfaction from the appearance of his band of Pensioners on this occasion. He describes them in his Journal as "well armed men, their horses all fair and great, the worst worth at least twenty pounds. Thus they careered twice round the St. James' Field, and so departed."

These musters were then very frequent. Stowe describes another in the next year. Sometimes

the Band performed mock fights and sieges. The King, in his Journal, mentions one in his second year, "when thirty Gentlemen defended a fortress at Greenwich against an hundred assailants." They also took a part in the "King's sports and amusements, such as running at base, shooting, running at the ring, &c." Stowe mentions another muster made in the last year of the King's reign, "when the Captain of the Pensioners, Marquis of Northampton, mustered as Lord Chamberlain, and Lord Bray the Lieutenant commanding the Pensioners."

At one of these musters there was a design to strike a fell and treacherous blow at the King's power, and to annihilate the force assembled, "in which all the Horse of the Genddimerie were to have been slain."

In this reign the Band is also mentioned as being in attendance at Hampton Court during the visit of the Queen Dowager of Scotland. The Queen Dowager was passing from France to Scotland in 1550, and being driven by a storm into Portsmouth, took that opportunity of visit-

ing Edward VI., and was received at Hampton Court by many of the Nobility and all the Pensioners, with their Captain and Lieutenant.

At her departure she was likewise escorted to the extremity of the City of London by the Pensioners, and was then received by the Gentlemen of the County of Middlesex.

It appears also that the Band was sometimes employed in reception of persons inferior to royalty, for in 1549, when the Count D'Anguien and others of the French Nobility arrived in England, they were received at Blackheath by Lords deputed by the King, and among the rest by Lord Bray at the head of the Pensioners.

The next occasion when the Band is noticed is in a Progress made by the King in 1551, when it is stated in His Majesty's Journal that on the 16th May a muster was made of all the Men at Arms, (with some exceptions,) and also of all the Pensioners, for the purpose of draughting a certain number out of each Band for an Escort. The King states the number out of each Band appointed to attend him,—*no draught being made*

out of the King's own Band at all. It is presumed, therefore, that the whole Band went on that occasion.

In a MS. account of the payments to sundry Officers of the Royal Household in the sixth year of Edward VI., appears one to a Standard Bearer, with a salary of £100 per annum, and one to a Banner Bearer of £40 per annum.

QUEEN MARY.

In the reign of Queen Mary the ordering of the Band differs very little from the preceding reign, except that the Captain, the Marquis of Northampton, had a Table, at which most probably the Lieutenant, Lord Bray, and the Standard Bearer, Sir W. Stafford, dined.

(In the next reign we shall find a Table not only for the Officers, but for such of the Pensioners as were on duty, the half of the Band being then always in constant attendance.)

The number of Pensioners at this time still

consisted of fifty, of whom the first three were Knights.

The annual stipend of the Pensioners was then £46 13s. 4d. each. The first important duty of the Band was during the Queen's procession from the Tower to Westminster, on the day preceding the Coronation, such procession being then a customary solemnity. "On each side of the procession," says Gough, in his edition of Perlin's Description of England, "went the Gentlemen of the Axe and the Archers."

The most conspicuous appearance the Pensioners made in this reign was in 1553, when they were on active service in their military capacity as the Body Guard of the Sovereign during the Insurrection of Sir Thomas Wyatt and others. Mr. Underhill, who had served at the siege of Boulogne, and for his merit made a Gentleman Pensioner by King Henry VIII., gives the following account of their defence of the Palace at Whitehall, which is taken from Fox's MS. in Strype's Memorials:—

"The Queen and her Court were in great

consternation when Wyat was come to Southwark with his army, intending to enter London that way. The Gentlemen Pensioners were commanded to watch in armour that night, for the preservation of the Queen's person, and they came up into the presence with their pole axes in their hands. Whereat the ladies were very fearful, some lamenting, crying, and wringing their hands, and saying, 'Alas! there is some great mischief towards us! we shall all be destroyed this night; what a sight is this to see the Queen's Chamber full of armed men! the like was never seen or heard of.' " The Band, in their usual habits, de la Cour, with their battle axes, was an object familiar to the ladies, but the panic arose from seeing them in the same place in armour and on such an occasion. Soon afterwards the danger increased, and the Palace was beset by a party of the rebels from Westminster, and the gates closed. The Pensioners were then in the hall, from whence they issued and demanded that the gates might be opened, saying, "It was too much shame that the gates

should be thus shut for a few rebels ; the Queen shall see us fell down her enemies this day before her face." The gates were then opened, but the Queen "earnestly requested that they (the Pensioners) would not go out of her sight," intimating that "her only trust was in them for the defence of her person that day."

The Queen was, at this time, in the gallery over the gate. They then marched before the gallery window, "when she spake unto them, requiring them as they were Gentlemen in whom she only trusted, that they would not go from that place."

Thus they marched up and down for the space of an hour, when news was brought that Wyatt was taken. "Anon after," says Underhill's narrative, "the Guard of Pensioners were all brought into the Queen's presence, and every one kissed her hand, of whom they had great thanks and large promises, how good she would be unto them, but few or none of us got anything, although she was very liberal to many others that were enemies to God's Word as few of us were."

The Queen accounted this so great an escape that medals were struck in remembrance of it.

The Band next appeared on the marriage of the Queen Mary with Prince Philip of Spain, on which occasion the Gentlemen Pensioners carried up the dinner, their Captain, Thomas Ratcliff, Earl of Sussex, officiating as server, since which period the Band have not only carried up the dinner at the marriage of Kings and Queens of England, but also at the Coronations.

In 1556, on the 20th January, there was a muster of the Pensioners and their Men at Arms before the Queen in Greenwich Park, when, according to Strype, "they mustered in bright harness," &c., under a Banner of the King and Queen's Arms, and Colors of the House of Tudor.

In 1557 there was a similar muster.



QUEEN ELIZABETH.

In the early part of this reign there is no material change in the Band, with the exception of increase of pay and of a Royal Table allowed to the Gentlemen in Waiting, as well as the Officers.

Notwithstanding the indulgence of Quarterly Waiting, the whole Band were in frequent attendance on Her Majesty both at Court and in Royal Progresses.

In 1559 a Tilt was performed by the Band before Her Majesty at Greenwich, on which occasion Lists were prepared “for the Queen’s Pensioners to run with Spears.”

In 1561 the Band escorted the Queen into various parts of the City of London and its adjacencies.

In 1564, when the Queen visited the University of Cambridge, she was escorted to a play “by all the Pensioners on both sides with torch staves.”

In 1569, on the 28th March, according to Stowe, “the Pensioners, well appointed in armour,

on horseback, mustered before the Queen's Majesty in Hyde Park beside Westminster."

In 1573, when Queen Elizabeth visited Archbishop Parker at Canterbury, "the dinner was served by Her Majesty's Pensioners."

In 1580 the Band also attended Her Majesty when she honored the Captain, Lord Hunsden, with a visit at Hunsden House.

In 1598, according to Hentzner, "the Queen went to Chapel on a Sunday, guarded on each side by Gentlemen Pensioners, fifty in number, with gilt battle axes."

The whole Band, therefore, not only attended the Queen in the Field, but also as an escort in Court movements and Royal progresses, as well as when she moved in domestic state.

According to Lord Hunsden's letter to King James I., "that the Band was a seminary for statesmen and men of eminence," &c., Sir Christopher Hatton, one of the Pensioners, became a Gentleman of the Privy Chamber, Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, Vice-Chamberlain, a Knight of the Garter, and at last High Chancellor.

The orders in this reign for the discipline and attendance of the Band, are to be found in the Harleian Library, signed by Sir Henry Graye, Lieutenant, and another, perhaps the Standard Bearer, whose name is written illegibly, with a note, thus, "This Booke agreeth with the Booke made in the tyme of Kyng Henry VIII., signed then with the Kyng's own hand, which remaineth with my lord the Captain."

These Orders (see *Appendix*, No. 2,) are worthy of note as displaying the strict discipline required of the Band at that time, and refer to the daily attendance upon Her Majesty when "going abroad to Morninge Prayer and Even-songe, in her Majestie's progress tyme, or in any other removinge, or if Her Highness doth ride."

KING JAMES I.

The following letter from the Captain, Lord Hunsden, to King James, as extracted from the Order Book, fully describes the state of the Band in this Reign:—

Letter from Lord Hunsden to King James.

“Most mighty and most gracious Liege and Sovereign, among many other honors and duties which I owe unto the memory of my late deceased sovereign, this is not the least, that it pleased Her Majesty upon the decease of my lord and father, and who also enjoyed the same honorable office, to grace me with the Captainship of her Band of Gentlemen Pensioners, which place and dignity I have to this present enjoyed, for the further continuance whereof I humbly desire to understand your Majesty’s direction, and withall do think it a matter agreeable to my duty and allegiance plainly and truly to inform your Majesty of the institution, nature, quality, and service of this honorable Band. They are in all fifty gentlemen, besides myself, the Lieutenant, Standard Bearer, Clerk of the Cheque, and Gentleman Harbinger, chosen out of the best and antientest families of England, and some of them sons to Earls, Barons, Knights, and Esquires, men thereunto especially recom-

mended for their worthiness and sufficiency, without any stain or taint of dishonor, or disparagement in blood. Her Majesty and other princes, her predecessors, have found great use of their service, as well in the guard and defence of their royal persons as also in sundry other important employments, as well civil as military, at home and abroad, insomuch as it hath served them always as a nursery to breed up Deputies of Ireland, Ambassadors into foreign parts, Counsellors of State, Captains of the Guard, Governors of places, and Commanders in the wars, both by land and sea. Withal I cannot omit to signify to your Majesty the alacrity and affection wherewith, upon the decease of her Highness they did embrace your Majesty's title and cause, insomuch that upon my motion they did most willingly offer themselves to a strong and settled combination by a solemn oath and vow to defend and prosecute your Majesty's lawful right and title, by themselves, their friends, allies, and followers, (being no contemptible portion of this kingdom,) to the last drop

of their blood, against all impugnors whatsoever, with which humble and dutiful desires of theirs to serve your Majesty I thought it my part and duty to acquaint you, and withal humbly desire to know your Majesty's pleasure and resolution concerning them. I have caused them to remain all about the Court, with their horses, armour, and men, to attend the body of our late Royal Mistress, and being generally all desirous to wait upon your Majesty, at your entry into this kingdom, as those that would be loth to be second to any in all obsequious and serviceable duties to your Majesty, wherein I humbly desire your Majesty's further direction.

“And ever desire Almighty God, &c.”

The testimony also of John, Earl of Clare, (who had been in the Band when Sir John Holles,) and given by his kinsman, Mr. Gervan Holles, will indicate the character and feeling of the Band:—“I have heard the Earl say that when he was a Pensioner to the Queen he did not know a worse man in the whole Band than

himself, and that all the world knew he had an inheritance of £4,000 a year."

Clearly shewing it was not the emolument or any lucrative motive which made gentlemen anxious in that reign to be admitted into the Band, but the pure dignity of the post itself, added to the laudable ambition of being employed in public characters abroad, or of filling high offices at home. In 1616 King James issued an order increasing the pay and allowance and mentioning "Sir Henry Wynn, now Paymaster of the said Band, from which it appears that a Paymaster had been appointed. King James's order is as follows:—

"James, by the grace of God, &c. To the Treasurer and Under-Treasurer of our Exchequer, greeting. Whereas, we are pleased, out of our gracious and princely disposition, to make an increase of the wages and allowances of the Captain, Lieutenant, Standard Bearer, Clark of the Cheque, Gentlemen Pensioners, Gentlemen at Arms, and Harbinger, for the better enabling them to attend upon us, in our service, the same

not to exceed in any one year the sum of six thousand pounds. This shal be therefore to will and commaund you of such of our Treasure as from tyme to tyme shall be and remayne in the receipte of our said Exchequer, to cause payment to be made from tyme to tyme unto Sir Henry Wynn, Knight, now Paymaster of the said Band, and to the Paymaster hereafter for the tyme being, of all such som and sommes of money as shall appeare to be due unto them, the said Captain, Lieutenant, and the rest of the Officers and Band respectively, upon Quarterly Rolles, subscribed by the said Captaine, or in his absence by the Lieutenant, or in the absence of them, by the hand of the Standard Bearer and Clark of the Cheque for the tyme being, to whome any wages or board wages shall be due, and how muche everie of them (his cheque defalked to our use,) ought to receive of the same, the first payment thereof to begin and take place from the tyme of their last payment, and so to continue Quarterly during our pleasure. To be taken, had, and received to the said Paymaster

respectively, without any account, imprest, or other charge to be set upon him or them for the same, or for aine part thereof. And theis our letters, &c., Given, &c.

“By Order of Mr. Secretary Lake, 1616.

“Expedit apud Bletsoe,

“Vicesimo Quarto die Julii,

“Anno Regis Jacobi Decimo

“Quarto.

“P. WINDEBANK.”

CHARLES I.

In this reign Monsieur la Serre gives an account of the Gentlemen Pensioners, whom he saw on duty, to the number of fifty, when in 1637 Mary de Medicis, the Queen's mother, came into England to visit her daughter, Queen Henrietta. He compares them with the French Garde du Corps, and adds that each Pensioner had three horses, well caparisoned. The Captain of the Band, Earl of Salisbury, together with the Captain of the Yeomen, supported Monsieur de

la Masure, the Lieutenant of the French Queen's Garde du Corps. On the triumphal entry of the King into the City of London, after his return from Scotland, in 1641, according to Lord Somers,

“His Majesty was escorted by the Earl of Salisbury, Captain of the Pensioners, followed by the Gentlemen Pensioners, with their pole axes, all mounted, with pistols at their saddles.

“And at dinner, at the west part of the Hall (Guildhall), below the gate at the south side, was a long table placed for His Majesty's Pensioners.”

In 1642 they escorted the King when he took refuge in Oxford, and it was commanded by His Majesty, with advice of the Council,

“That as often as His Majesty did ride abroad, the Captain of the Yeomen Guard and Lieutenant of his Pensioners, with four of the Gentlemen Pensioners, should ride continually near His Majesty's person, and suffer none of mean condition, or unknown to them, to come near His Majesty.”

The Pensioners are again mentioned as part of the Escort of the Queen when she made her entry into Oxford the same year.

Orders for the government of the Band were issued by King Charles in 1633, which confirms a statement of Lord Clarendon, who says "that the King kept state to the full, which made his Court very orderly, no man presuming to be in a place where he had no pretence to be."

These Orders (see *Appendix*, No. 3,) commence thus, "The Band of Pensioners having the honor to be our nearest guard, and to have their daily access into our presence chamber, We think fit and ordain that from henceforth they be freely chosen out of our best families, and such as have best education, in several counties of our kingdoms, that all our loving subjects of best rank and worth may find themselves interested in the trust and honor of our service."

They give also strict injunctions for the attendance of the Band "when the King went abroad to Morning and Evening Prayers in the great closet, and to keep the place when the King

passed to and fro, as the largeness of the room shall serve, also in his progress or other remove, when the King doth ride, when they shall keep such place as ordered by us or by their officers."

There can be little doubt of the Band being employed in active service during the Civil War, as His Majesty's Body Guard.

At the battle of Edge Hill it is stated that Sir Edmund Verney, the Standard Bearer, was killed, that the Royal Standard was taken, but afterwards rescued by Captain John Smith, who was knighted and made Standard Bearer.

Additional Orders (see *Appendix*, No. 4,) were issued in 1633 by the Earl of Suffolk, Captain; Lord George Goring, Lieutenant; and Sir Edward Capel, Knight, Standard Bearer, and are to be found in the Order Book of the Band.

These Orders refer principally to the attendance of the Gentlemen Pensioners at St. George's Feast and all other festivals, as well as allowances for waiting upon His Majesty into Scotland.

During the Protectorate, Cromwell instituted a Body Guard of forty gentlemen, which, accor-

ding to the following letter, assimilated with the King's Band. It is from the Dutch Ambassador (Nieuport) to the States General, as thus,

“High and Mighty Lords,

“My Lords,—A few days since the Life Guard of Horse of the Lord Protector, which formerly consisted of forty persons, most young gentlemen of this nation, was reformed after such a manner that twenty of them are to be employed as ordinary Pensioners, who are to wait continually upon the person of his Highness, &c.

“Dated Westminster, March 10, 1656.”

CHARLES II.

At the Restoration those of the Gentlemen Pensioners who survived the Civil Wars, attended the King upon his entry into London, and the Band again resumed its duties near the royal person.

According to Heath, in July, when the King dined at Guildhall, “The Band went on foot

on each side His Majesty's coach, under the command of their Captain, Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Cleveland, with pistols in their hands."

In the procession from the Tower to Westminster, on the day before the Coronation, and at the Coronation, they are found in their usual situations.

In 1668 several changes took place in parts of the royal household, which did not, however, affect the Band, as they are comprehended in one general clause of exception, the intention being to cut off all supernumary places, "other than were in the time of his late Majesty, of blessed memory."

In 1670 the Band was reduced from fifty to forty, (at which number it has ever since continued,) and the pay of the officers and gentlemen conformed to a fixed allowance by Royal Order, (see *Appendix*, No. 5,) according to which the pay was as follows:—£1,000 to the Captain, £500 to the Lieutenant, £310 to the Standard Bearer, £4,000 to forty gentlemen, £120 to the Clerk of the Cheque, £70 to the Gentleman

Harbinger, and it was further declared "that their habits and arms shall be such as we shall appoint."

In 1671, April 22, Lord Bellasyse, the Captain, sent a letter to the Clerk of the Cheque, enclosing copy of Royal Order of Charles II. with regard to the reduction of the Band, with the names of the Band, in which appear eight Knights. (See *Appendix*, No. 6.)

By this Order the King resumes to himself the appointment of the whole Band, but in 1677, by the following Order to the Captain, the Earl of Roscommon, he invests him with the same power his predecessors had. (See *Appendix*, No. 7.)

By this Order also, every gentleman, previous to his admission into the Band, had the privilege of being presented to the Sovereign, which was confirmed by King James, and does not appear to have been revoked.

During this reign the Band seems to have greatly flourished, for in a List of all the King's forces, including the Pensioners and Yeomen,

made and printed in 1684, there are to be found in the Band, exclusive of the officers, one Baronet and nine Knights.

On February 7th, 1674, the Commons resolved “that the keeping any standing forces, other than the Militia, was a grievance; that, according to law, the King ought to have no Guards but the Gentleman Pensioners and the Yeomen of the Guard, and that it was impossible effectually to deliver this nation from a standing army till the Life Guards were pulled up by the roots.”

JAMES II.

In 1684 King James II. issued an Order, (see *Appendix*, No. 8,) which commences thus:

“James R.

“The honorable Band of our Gentleman Pensioners, having the honor to have daily access into our presence chamber, as being our nearest Guard and principal Military Corps of our household, in which honorable Band our

Royal Father, in his late Civil Wars, as well as other Princes, our predecessors, have found great service, as well in the guard of their royal persons as that it hath served them as a nursery to breed up the nobility and gentry of the realm in military discipline, and fit them to be commanders in their wars, and We having taken notice that several persons have been admitted into the said Band not qualified as heretofore for that service, which has rendered the said Band less grateful to us, We think fit and ordain that henceforth none shall be admitted to be of the forty Gentlemen Pensioners in Ordinary but the sons of noblemen and gentlemen of blood, or such persons who by their valor and good conduct in the wars have distinguished themselves as Commission Officers in our forces, and who shall for the term of six months, at the least, have served at their own proper charge as Gentlemen at Arms, commonly called Gentlemen Pensioners Extraordinary of the said Band.

“None that is or shall be a servant, or

retained to any person or persons of any degree or condition whatsoever, by oath, livery badge, promise, or otherwise, but to us only, shall be of the forty Gentlemen Pensioners in Ordinary, or of the eighty Gentlemen at Arms or Pensioners Extraordinary of the said Band."

By reference to the ceremonial of the Coronation of James II. and Queen Mary, printed in 1687 by Francis Sandford, Esq., Lancaster Herald, and now in the British Museum, the position of the Gentlemen Pensioners as the immediate Body Guard of their Majesties' sacred persons, is clearly defined, and so unmistakeably illustrated that even the names of the gentlemen on duty are mentioned.

In this procession ten Gentlemen Pensioners, with two officers, are placed as the Body Guard on each side the King, ten also on each side the Queen.

The names of the King's Guard are as follows:—

STANDARD BEARER.

SIR THOMAS BLUDWORTH, Kt.
 SIR THOMAS KNIVERTON, Bart.
 THOMAS FRANCIS, Esq.
 SIR GERARD FLEETWOOD, Bart.
 CHARLES GORTWICH, Esq.
 GEORGE FARINGTON, Esq.
 JOHN BARNARD, Esq.
 JOHN WEST, Esq.
 ABRAHAM CLERK, Esq.
 SIR ROBERT DACRES, Kt.
 ANTHONY GAWDY, Esq.

THE KING.

LIEUTENANT.

FRANCIS VILLIERS, Esq.
 CHARLES CLUDD, Esq.
 DANIEL VIVIAN, Esq.
 EDWARD GLYNNE, Esq.
 EDWARD COURTHOPE, Esq.
 WALKER BAKER, Esq.
 WILLIAM ASHTON, Esq.
 JOHN HUBERT, Esq.
 ROGER CONNESBY, Esq.
 HUGH TYNTE, Esq.
 THOMAS HALES, Esq.

The Queen's Guard are as follows :—

CLERK OF THE CHEQUE.

WILLIAM THOMAS, Esq.
 JASTER TOMSON, Esq.
 JOHN TITTCOMBE, Esq.
 MILES MARSH, Esq.
 HENRY BINE, Esq.
 CHARNOCK HERON, Esq.
 THOMAS JANSON, Esq.
 BERNARD TANNER, Esq.
 LANCELOT LAKE, Esq.
 PETER COOK, Esq.
 WILLIAM ROWLEY, Esq.

THE QUEEN.

GENTLEMAN HARBINGER.

RICHARD CHILD, Esq.
 AMBROSE MEARES, Esq.
 THOMAS ROWE, Esq.
 THOMAS ORME, Esq.
 ABRAHAM DUPLEX, Esq.
 JOHN COWPER, Esq.
 AMBROSE SICOMBE, Esq.
 THOMAS MANNING, Esq.
 JOHN ESTCOURT, Esq.
 EDWARD MAYNARD, Esq.
 CHRISTOPHER TURNER, Esq.

It is further stated that the Gentlemen Pensioners, in number forty, wearing their hats, (pursuant to His Majesty's order, as being a military body,) being ranged in two files, were in attendance at the upper end of Westminster Hall to receive their Majesties, namely, ten on each side guarded the Queen, and other twenty in like manner guarded the King.

WILLIAM III.

In this reign a Petition was forwarded to the Sovereign by the gentlemen dismissed by Lord Lovelace, complaining of his power as Captain to remove them, which Petition was duly considered in Council at Whitehall, July 25, 1689, present, His Most Excellent Majesty, and an answer sent confirming the right of the Captain to dismiss any of the Band, but ordering at the same time “that no gentleman for the future be admitted into the Band unless first presented to His Majesty for His Majesty’s allowance and approbation.”

QUEEN ANNE.

There are several Orders in this reign, directing payment to each of the Pensioners for their attendance at Hampton Court, as well as Windsor, on Sundays and other days of solemnity. (See *Appendix*, No. 9.)

On the 20th July, 1712, the Clerk of the Cheque, Philip Pendock, Esq., issued the Captain's Order (the Duke of Beaufort) for the Band to wear their new clothes, red topped shoes, a white feather, and stockings and hat, according to pattern, and for mourning, on the 6th April, 1714, their regimental coat, a black waistcoat, breeches and stockings, a mourning sword, and a plain hat.

The costume of the Pensioners seems to have changed with the various sovereigns. (See *Appendix*, No. 10.)

On the 2nd August, 1714, the Gentlemen were ordered to carry their axes in mourning at the funeral of Her Majesty; on the 10th, to attend the funeral in close mourning, (cloaks excepted,) and on the 17th, in pursuance of an Order in Council, the whole Band was required to attend her late Majesty's body, on the following Sunday evening, from the Presence Chamber in Westminster to the Royal Vault.

GEORGE I.

The Orders in this reign refer principally to attendances, leave of absence, and directions as to dress.

On the 5th October, 1714, the Band received notice to attend at the Coronation of His Majesty, and to new clothe themselves for that purpose.

On the 22nd June, 1727, the Band was required to attend the funeral of His Majesty, in pursuance of the following Order :—

“ Sir,—I am commanded by our Captain, the Right Honorable the Marquis of Arlington, to acquaint you that it is his lordship’s pleasure that you forthwith put yourself into close mourning for the late King, and that you have for mourning a scarlet coat trimmed with black, with a black cloth waistcoat and breeches, black sword and buckles, and you must also put your axe into mourning.

“ I am, Sir, your humble servant,

“ G. TURNER.”

GEORGE II.

On the 8th October, 1727, the Clerk of the Cheque issued an Order requiring attendance of the Band at the Coronation of His Majesty George II., “by nine o’clock of the morning in Westminster Hall, to march in the procession.” (See *Appendix*, No. 11.)

Sir William Wynne, Standard Bearer of the Band, and Sir John Taylor, one of the Gentlemen Pensioners, were the two who were knighted on account of the Band’s attendance at the Coronation, and the King paid their fees of knighthood. The Gentlemen of the Band carried up the King’s dinner.

In the same year the Band attended His Majesty on Lord Mayor’s day into the City, as appears by the following summons :—

“Sir,

“His Majesty having accepted of an invitation to dine with the Lord Mayor on the 29th this instant, October, being Lord Mayor’s

day, by our Captain's express command you are authorized to meet the rest of the Gentlemen of the Band by twelve o'clock at noon at the Tavern in King Street, near Guildhall, where a dinner will be provided for the Gentlemen at the City's expense, and from thence about three o'clock in the afternoon you must proceed in a body with the rest of the Gentlemen to Guildhall, there to expect His Majesty's arrival.

"I am, Sir,

"Your humble servant,

"G. TURNER."

October 25, 1727.

On the 2nd February, 1734, the Captain, the Duke of Montague, addressed a letter to George Turner, Esq., the Clerk of the Cheque, relative to the oath and the keep of horses for His Majesty's service. (See *Appendix*, No. 12.)

On the 28th December, 1734, the Duke of Montague addressed another letter to the Clerk of the Cheque, and commences thus :—

“Sir,—As His Majesty has done me the honor to entrust me with the command of his honorable Band of Gentlemen Pensioners, so I think it an indispensable duty incumbent upon me to do everything in that trust which may be for the honor of His Majesty, and not to suffer anything which may derogate from either. *The Band of Pensioners, as they have the honor to be His Majesty's nearest Guard, so they are entitled to an honor which no other of his Guards have, which is that of Mounting Guard daily in His Majesty's Presence Chamber, and thereby becoming more nearly entrusted than any other in the immediate guard of His Majesty's sacred person.*

“This honor was first granted to the Band by King Henry VIII., by the Ordinances made by him for the government of the Band, was confirmed by King Charles I. in the year 1633, by King Charles II. in the year 1677, and by King James II. in 1684.”

This letter is very important in regard to the Band having the privilege of being His Majesty's nearest Guard, and states that it was first grant-

ed by King Henry VIII., confirmed by King Charles I., by King Charles II., and by King James II.

This Order also demands the attendance of “five of the Band, with their axes, from the hour of ten till His Majesty is gone to dinner; also in the Presence Chamber every drawing room and other public nights, from 8 o’clock in the evening till His Majesty has retired.” (See *Appendix*, No. 13.)

Another letter from the Duke of Montagu was sent to the Clerk of the Cheque respecting the position and duty of the Band when in attendance on the Sovereign at the Parliament House, as follows:—

“Sir,—You are hereby required to give notice to the Officers and all the Gentlemen of His Majesty’s Band of Gentlemen Pensioners under my command, that when His Majesty goes to the Parliament House the five gentlemen in waiting in the Presence Chamber do always attend His Majesty down stairs, with their axes, to his coach, and wait till it is gone off, and on His

Majesty's return from the House to St. James's, they receive him at his alighting out of his coach and guard His Majesty up stairs into the Presence Chamber, where they usually wait. And it is my further order, and the Gentlemen of the Band are hereby required to take especial care that four of the gentlemen in waiting on His Majesty at the Parliament House do receive him at his getting out of his coach and follow into the Presence Chamber when His Majesty robes, and place themselves as near the King as conveniently may be, before the Yeomen of the Guard, and stand to their arms till His Majesty is gone into the House; and that they place themselves in the like manner against His Majesty comes out of the House, and whilst His Majesty unrobes, and attend him down stairs to his coach.

“ I am, Sir,

“ Your friend and servant,

“ MONTAGU.

“ *Feb. 2, 1737.*

“ G. TURNER, Esq., Clerk of the Cheque
to the Band, &c.”

Another letter was written November 24th, 1737, relative to the mourning for Queen Caroline. (See *Appendix*, No. 14.)

The following extract is taken from the Minutes of the Lords of the Council relative to the funeral of the Queen :—

“At the Council Chamber, Whitehall, December 5th, 1737. By a Committee of the Lords of His Majesty’s Most Honorable Privy Council appointed to consider of Her Majesty’s funeral.

“It is this day ordered by their lordships that the Band of Pensioners, which was directed by a former Order of this Committee to attend at the foot of the stairs of the Prince’s Chamber at the time of the interment, in order to receive Her Majesty’s body, be disposed of in the following manner, viz., that ten of the said Band do march with their axes reversed on one side of the said canopy, which is to be carried over Her Majesty’s body, and ten on the other side, in the same manner; and that the remaining part of the Band, with their axes erect, do fall

in at the close of the Procession, next before the Yeomen of the Guard.

“TEMPLE STANYAN.”

In addition to which an Order was issued by the Captain most minutely describing the position and duties of the Band during the interment of Her Majesty the Queen Caroline, (see *Appendix*, No. 15,) in which it is commanded “that ten of the Gentlemen march on either side the royal body, with their axes reversed, under the orders of the Lieutenant and Standard Bearer, and that the remaining twenty of the Band march behind the late Queen’s Bedchamber Women, immediately before the Yeomen of the Guard.”

On the 7th December, 1737, George Turner, Esq., received from the Duke of Montague an ebony staff, as the insignia of his office, according to the following extract from the Order Book:—

“His Grace the Duke of Montague was pleased to give a staff to George Turner, Esq., Clerk of the Cheque, and directed him to carry

the same whenever he attended on His Majesty in the Presence Chamber."

In 1741 his Grace the Duke of Bolton ordered the Band to wear *Brigadier Periwigs*.

In 1743 the Right Honorable Lord Bathurst issued Rules for the guidance of the Axe Keeper (See *Appendix*, No. 16.)

In 1745, on account of the disquietude in northern parts of the kingdom, the Band received the following Order from Sir W. Wynne, in the absence of Lord Hobart, the Captain, to attend His Majesty to the Field, with the Royal Standard :—

"December 5th, 1745.

"Sir,—The Rebels having advanced to Derby, the King has signified his intention to set up his Standard on Finchley Common ; you are therefore commanded to acquaint the Gentlemen of the Band to be in readiness, with their servants, horses, and arms, to attend His Majesty there.

"I am, Sir, your friend and humble servant,
"WILLIAM WYNNE."

According to Order in Council, November 1st, 1760, the position and duty of the Band is again defined in the Ceremonial of the Interment of His Majesty George II., (see *Appendix*, No. 17,) and is the same as in the preceding reign.

GEORGE III.

King George III., on his accession, was pleased to confirm all the ancient privileges and honors enjoyed by the servants of his predecessors, by a proclamation dated January 13th, 1761.

On September 8th, 1761, the Band assembled to attend the marriage of His Majesty with her most serene highness Princess Charlotte, of Mecklenburgh Strelitz, and formed the immediate Body Guard of the Sovereign.

On the 22nd September, 1761, His Majesty King George III. and his Consort, Queen Charlotte, were crowned in Westminster Abbey, when the whole Band attended, forming the immediate Body Guard of the Sovereigns.

An account of these processions, in which the position of the Officers and the Band is clearly defined, is extracted from the "London Gazette" of 1761. At the Coronation dinner, which the Band have the honor to serve, His Majesty was pleased to confer the honor of knighthood on I. Bridge, Esq., Standard Bearer, and Owen Jones, Esq., Senior Gentleman Pensioner, and paid the fees for the same, according to the ancient custom.

In 1761 the Band attended their Majesties at Guildhall, as will appear by the following letter:

" Sir,

"His Majesty having accepted of an invitation to dine with the Lord Mayor on the 9th November, 1761, (Lord Mayor's Day,) by our Captain's express commands you are required to meet the rest of the Gentlemen of the Band by three o'clock in the afternoon, at the Paul's Head Tavern, Cateaton Street, near Guildhall, where a dinner will be provided for the Gentlemen at the City's expense, and from thence to

proceed in a body with the rest of the Gentlemen to Guildhall, then to expect their Majesties' arrival.

“I am, Sir, your humble servant,

“CHARLES CECIL CALVERT.

“ *October 6, 1761.*”

Agreeable to ancient custom the Band attended at the Installation of Knights of the Garter, in 1762, on which occasion Robert Goodere, Esq., was knighted, after the second course of the King's Dinner, which was carried up by the Gentlemen Pensioners. The following extract is taken from the Order Book :—

“ 12 September, 1762.

“ Sir,

“In pursuance of an Order from the Earl of Lichfield, I do give you notice that you must attend at the Installation of the Knights of the Garter, to be held at Windsor on the 22nd September, and I am ordered by his lordship that it

is his express commands that he will not admit of any excuse, and I do also give you notice to be in St. George's Chapel by nine o'clock in the morning of the same day.

“ I am, Sir, your humble servant,

“ CHARLES CECIL HERBERT,

“ *Clerk of the Cheque.*”

The Band forms the Body Guard of the Sovereign at the Installation of Knights of the Garter, and in 1771, when William Desse was knighted, the Captain and Officers had apartments at Windsor Castle, and the Gentlemen's dressing and muster room was in the Palace, and their table in the Round Tower.

An old privilege of the Gentlemen Pensioners was that they should be admitted to commissions in the Army preferably to all other persons, which arrangement is conformable with the statement in Lord Hunsden's letter to King James I., where the Band is considered as a

school to qualify gentlemen for higher and more active employments.

In 1782 Mr. Burke, in his Bill for a Reform of the Royal Household, proposed a clause that no post under the command of the Captain be sold, but be supplied by Officers in the Army and Navy on half-pay, whereupon the Band petitioned the House of Commons, stating the great private injury and injustice that would arise therefrom, when the clause was immediately withdrawn. (See *Appendix*, No. 18.)

There is an Order in the Order Book with regard to the tying the hair and wigs, *a queue*, the want of which, as being unmilitary, was much noticed when the Lords and Commons brought up their addresses.

In 1789 the Earl of Leicester required the Band to attend at St. Paul's to escort their Majesties to the Cathedral (see *Appendix*, No. 19.)

The Marquis of Salisbury, as Lord Chamberlain, transmitted the following letter to Lord Viscount Falmouth, relative to the marriage of the Prince of Wales :—

“Lord Chamberlain’s Office,
March 13, 1795.

“My Lord,

“I have His Majesty’s command to acquaint your lordship that on the evening of the Prince of Wales’ nuptials the Gentlemen Pensioners in waiting are to be drawn up in the Presence Chamber when the Royal Family pass to and fro from the Chapel Royal.

“I have the honor to be, my lord,

“Your lordship’s most obedient servant,

“SALISBURY.

“To Lord Viscount FALMOUTH, Captain of the
Band of Gentlemen Pensioners.”

A similar letter was sent by the Marquis of Salisbury to Lord Falmouth previous to the wedding of Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal with His Serene Highness the Prince of Wirtemberg, at the Chapel Royal at St. James’s, 18th May, 1795.

In 1805 Lord Dartmouth issued the following letter to Viscount Falmouth, relative to the Installation :—

“ Lord Chamberlain’s Office,
March 30, 1805.

“ My Lord,

“ The Installation of the Knights of the Garter being fixed for Tuesday, the 23rd April next, at Windsor Castle, (His Majesty’s Palace,) I have received His Majesty’s commands that your lordship do give the necessary orders for the attendance of the Gentlemen Pensioners at Windsor Castle on that day, in such number as has been usual on similar occasions.

“ I have the honor to be, my lord,

“ Your lordship’s most obedient servant,

“ DARTMOUTH.

“ Viscount FALMOUTH, Captain of the Band.”

On this occasion twenty of the Band attended, according to custom, and carried up the second course of the King’s Dinner, at which the King expressed great satisfaction, and knighted John

Burton, Esq., one of the Band. The Officers and Gentlemen dined at the Queen's Lodge, and the Muster Room was procured in the Castle by order of the Captain. The allowances to the Band was as follows:—Lieutenant, Standard Bearer, and Clerk of the Cheque, ten guineas each; twenty Gentlemen, five guineas each; cases for Arms and Muster Room, seven pounds; carriage of Arms and Uniforms, two pounds ten shillings; expenses of Harbinger, ten guineas. Total, £156 10s.

According to Order Book, June 18, 1814, the Prince Regent, the Emperor of Russia, and the King of Prussia, were entertained in a most magnificent manner at Guildhall, at the City's expense, when three Officers and eighteen Gentlemen attended and were entertained in a sumptuous manner by the Corporation at the Baptist Head Coffee House in Aldermanbury. The Band also attended His Royal Highness the Prince Regent at St. Paul's Cathedral, on the day of Thanksgiving for the Restoration of Peace July 7th, 1814. (See *Appendix*, No. 20.)

In consequence of the indisposition of His Majesty, the Band of Pensioners was transferred to His Royal Highness the Prince Regent.

In this reign the Band attended the King and Prince Regent to the Chapel Royal on Sundays and other days, when a part of the Chapel was appropriated to the Gentlemen Pensioners.

GEORGE IV.

At the Coronation of King George IV., the whole Band were on duty, apparelled in costume similar to that worn in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the King himself furnishing each gentleman Pensioner with the magnificent dress and appointments it was his pleasure they should attend him in.

On this occasion Sir George Pocock, the Standard Bearer, received the honor of knighthood.

At the funeral of George IV., the Band attended at the lying in state and the procession.

WILLIAM IV.

King William IV. took great interest in the Band of Pensioners, and authorized and commanded certain regulations very beneficial to the Corps. He frequently personally inspected the Band, and on State occasions was pleased to point out any particular duty he wished altered or more strictly attended to. The King, moreover, changed the name from “Gentlemen Pensioners” to “Gentlemen at Arms,” and was pleased to make various inquiries and examinations into their Records and Order Books for the purpose of defining their constitution and rights, tending much to the advancement of the Corps, as the following Warrant, which was sent by His Majesty to the Captain, the Lord Foley, will signify :—

“Brighton, December 3rd, 1835.

“The King transmits to the Captain of the Corps of Gentlemen at Arms, for his guidance,

a regulation enclosed, which His Majesty has thought fit to establish with respect to filling up the vacancies which may hereafter occur by death or retirement, not entitled to sale in that Corps.

“ WILLIAM R.

“ The whole of the Officers to be named by His Majesty, who will reserve to himself exclusively the selection of the most proper persons, as vacancies occur, from Lists kept by the Commander in Chief of the Army, who will be responsible to the King for the past conduct and merit of those who may be recommended.

“ The Lieutenant either to be or to have been a Colonel or Lieutenant Colonel in the British Army or Corps of Royal Marines. The Standard Bearer, the Clerk of the Cheque, and the Harbinger, to be or to have been Lieutenant Colonels or Majors in the Army or Marines.

“ The Private Gentlemen to be or to have been Captains or Subalterns in the British Army or Royal Marines, to be selected from Lists kept

by the Commander in Chief and by him laid before the King, who will make his choice both of the Officers and Private Gentlemen of this Corps.

“The Officers and Private Gentlemen, if on half pay, are to enjoy the same together with their salaries.”

The Band attended as usual at the Coronation of King William IV., on which occasion the Lieutenant, T. B. Hendrich, Esq., received the honor of knighthood.

They were on duty also at the Royal Funeral, at the Lying in State at Windsor, and in the procession to St. George's Chapel.

QUEEN VICTORIA.

The Band of Gentlemen at Arms, from its better state of discipline from the enrolment of many gallant Officers of the Peninsula and other Officers of the Army and Navy, as well as more stringent regulations lately introduced by order of the Captain, under the reign of our Most Gracious Sovereign, is again assuming the military character which it formerly possessed, both in the splendor of its appointments as well as efficiency in Her Majesty's Service.

The Band is regularly drilled and trained to the use of arms, and composed as it now is of properly qualified gentlemen, may justly be considered as efficient a Body Guard to the Sovereign as it was in the days of Queen Elizabeth.

In the reign of our Most Gracious Queen they have served in their military capacity, being

entrusted with the defence of the State Apartments on April 10th, 1848.

They have been present also on these different occasions :—

The first occasion on which the Gentlemen at Arms were commanded to attend upon the Queen, was the magnificent banquet at Guildhall given by the Magnates of the City of London to their youthful Sovereign.

At the Coronation they were drawn up at the foot of the steps leading to the Throne, and also with special orders to keep the space clear in which the ceremony was to take place, an arduous duty and one that required great firmness and attention.

On this occasion Thomas N. Reeve, Esq., and Benjamin Smith, Esq., received the honor of knighthood.

On the 10th of February, 1840, the Marriage of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria with His Royal Highness Prince Albert of Saxe Cobourg and Gotha, was celebrated at the Chapel Royal at St. James's Palace. At this

ceremony the Corps were on duty, and were principally stationed in the apartment called Queen Ann's Drawing Room, as in this room the royal party first assembled, the Gentlemen at Arms forming a line on either side. Several of the Corps were also posted at intervals along the entire line of the Procession, six Gentlemen being specially appointed to follow the Queen to the altar and mount guard in the Chapel during the ceremony.

On the above occasion the Honorable Sir Edward Butler, the Lieutenant, received the honor of knighthood.

At the ceremony of Christening His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, twenty-eight of the Gentlemen at Arms, together with their Officers, were in attendance.

The ceremony took place at St. George's Chapel, at Windsor, on the 25th of January, 1842. The Corps lined the South Aisle, and kept guard at the North and South Entrances of the Chapel.

Four of the Gentlemen were also selected to

officiate as Guard of Honor to the King of Prussia, who was present on the occasion. After the ceremony of Christening the royal infant, a Chapter of the Garter was held, the King of Prussia being invested with the Order. At this investiture the Gentlemen at Arms lined the White Drawing Room. During the three days in which the Corps were stationed at Windsor, quarters and a table were found them by Her Majesty.

At the several Christenings of Her Royal Highness Princess Alice Maude Mary, Princess Helena Augusta Victoria, and Princess Louisa Caroline Augusta, the Gentlemen at Arms were also in attendance, together with their Officers.

At the State Ball given at Buckingham Palace, May 12th, 1842, thirty of the Corps, with their Officers, were on duty.

On the 28th of June, 1843, the Corps were present at the Marriage of Her Royal Highness the Princess Augusta of Cambridge with the Grand Duke of Mecklenburgh Strelitz.

On the 28th of October, 1844, twenty of the Corps were ordered to attend upon Her Majesty and Prince Albert at the interesting ceremony of opening the Royal Exchange; also on the occasion of the opening of the Coal Exchange on the 30th of October, 1849, twenty-eight of the Corps were in attendance upon His Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, and the Princess Royal, Her Majesty the Queen having been prevented by indisposition from attending.

Although the Band of Gentlemen at Arms is liable to be called into active service, according to their original formation by Henry VIII. as his personal Guard in the Field as well as at Court, as also was the case in 1745, when the King intended to take the Field, and still more recently, in 1848, in the defence of the Palace, their principal duty is confined to all that appertains to the splendor of the Court, as the more immediate and nearest Guard of our Most Gracious Sovereign.

Their duty consists in attending

*Coronations,
 Royal Marriages,
 Royal Baptisms,
 Royal Progresses,
 Royal Funerals,
 Installation of Knights of the Garter, and in
 Serving up the Dinner to the Sovereign,
 The Houses of Parliament,
 Addresses to the Throne,
 Levées,
 Drawing Room and other Public Nights,
 Chapel Royal,
 At St. George's Feast and all other Festivals,
 Daily in St. James's Palace,*

and all other State and Court occasions, as the Immediate Guard to the Sovereign's Person.

On May the 1st, 1851, the Corps attended on the opening of the Great Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations in Hyde Park.

St. James's Palace, June 10, 1851.

My Lord,

I have the honor to inform your lordship that I have been commissioned by the Queen to inquire into the privilege claimed by the Corps of Gentlemen at Arms and by the Yeomen of the Guard of attending as the Guard upon the person of the Sovereign upon State occasions not in the Royal Palaces.

May I therefore request your lordship, as Captain of the Gentlemen at Arms, to be good enough as soon as you conveniently can, to draw up and forward to me a Statement of the privileges which the Corps under your command claim to exercise upon such occasions, stating exactly what these privileges are, and the manner in which they are claimed to be exercised, and bringing out in as condensed a form as possible the grounds upon which the said privileges are claimed, and quoting the Documents and Precedents upon which they are founded, in order that I may report to Her Majesty on the

subject, with a view to a decision being come to.

I have the honor to be, my Lord,

Your obedient humble servant,

BREADALBANE,

The Lord FOLEY, &c.

Lord Chamberlain.

Grosvenor Square, June 28, 1851.

My Lord,

In reply to your lordship's letter of June 10th, requiring me as Captain of the Gentlemen at Arms by command of Her Majesty to draw up a Statement of the privileges of the Corps of attending as Guard upon the person of the Sovereign upon State occasions not in the Royal Palaces, the privileges which the Corps claim to exercise, and the grounds upon which such privileges are claimed, and the Documents and Precedents upon which they are founded, I beg to transmit to your lordship the two enclosed Statements, one a short summary of the History of the Corps since its foundation by King Henry

VIII., containing the most material extracts from Royal Orders and other Documents, &c., the other, which I have called an Appendix, containing the Orders, &c., to which allusions are made in the Summary. I think your lordship will perceive by these Royal Orders and Documents, that Her Majesty's Honorable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms, formerly called the Band of Gentlemen Pensioners, have been styled by every Sovereign as "our nearest Guard and principal Military Corps of our household;" that the Corps upon all State occasions has been the Guard in the Presence Chamber, in the Royal Palaces, that the Corps has been the immediate Guard upon the person of the Sovereign upon all Progresses, Visits to the Guildhall, St. Paul's, and all other State occasions in the City, upon the Opening and Prorogation of Parliament, upon the receipt of all Addresses, on the Throne, at all Drawing Rooms and Levées, at the Installation of Knights of the Garter, at Windsor, upon all Coronations and Funerals of the Sovereign and of the Consort of the Sovereign, at

Installations of Knights of the Garter, and at Coronations, has claims for the honor of knight-hood, and the privilege of carrying up the second course of the Sovereign's Dinner, and upon all State occasions it is the Guard nearest to the person of the Sovereign, and the only one in the Presence Chamber, in preference to any other whatsoever.

I beg to state that at this time the Corps is in a most efficient state, and capable of doing any military duty that can be done by so small a body of men, and that the Officers and Gentlemen of the Corps are anxious to do any duty in accordance with their privileges in any part of the Kingdom without putting the Crown to any additional expense. Trusting these Statements may meet the object required.

I have the honor to be, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient servant,

FOLEY,

*Captain of Her Majesty's Honorable Corps
of Gentlemen at Arms.*

The Marquis BREADALBANE, &c.

Lord Chamberlain's Office,
16th July, 1851.

The Lord Chamberlain presents his compliments to the Captain of the Gentlemen at Arms, and has the honor to forward the enclosed Order, bearing the Queen's Sign Manual, which by Her Majesty's command is to be strictly adhered to for the future.

VICTORIA R.

WHEREAS, We deemed it expedient that the Captains of the Gentlemen at Arms and Yeomen of the Guard should be called upon to state the privileges which they claim on behalf of their respective Corps as the Guards on our Royal Person on State occasions not in the Royal Palaces, AND WHEREAS, We recommended our Lord Chamberlain to call upon the said Captains to furnish him with a Statement of the privileges claimed to be exercised upon such occasions by their respective Corps, such Statements to contain the grounds

upon which these privileges are claimed, and to quote the Documents and Precedents upon which they are founded, AND WHEREAS, the said Captains have each transmitted to the Lord Chamberlain a Statement as desired, and the said Statements have been by him laid before us, which are accompanied by his Report upon the claims advanced by the Corps of Gentlemen at Arms and by the Yeomen of the Guard,

WE HEREBY SIGNIFY OUR ROYAL PLEASURE that the recommendations laid before us in that Report shall be fully carried out, and that the Corps of Gentlemen at Arms, whenever we shall command their attendance, shall do the duty of Guards nearest to our Royal Person, and shall attend for the purpose of performing such duty when so commanded upon all State occasions, whether in our Royal Palaces or elsewhere, and that the Yeomen of our Guard shall be the Corps upon all such occasions doing duty next to the Corps of Gentlemen at Arms.

Given at Buckingham Palace, on the eleventh

day of July, one thousand eight hundred and fifty one, and in the fifteenth year of our reign.

By Her Majesty's commands,

(Signed,) BREADALBANE,

Lord Chamberlain.

CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM.

*Addressed to the Army at
Home and Abroad.*

HORSE GUARDS, S.W.,

15TH JULY, 1862.

General No. 213.

Corps of Gentlemen at Arms.
1—(1862.)

Her Majesty having been pleased to approve of a re-organization of the Corps of Gentlemen at Arms, and to order that future vacancies therein should be filled up by Officers of the Army and Royal Marines of long or meritorious service, to be selected by Her Majesty from a list kept at the Horse Guards by the General Commanding-in-Chief, the following extract of the amended Regulations in reference to appointments thereto, which will be adopted

henceforth in lieu of those promulgated on the 25th May, 1861, is published for the information of Officers of the Army.

The purchase of Commissions is to cease, compensation being made to existing interests from the Reserve Fund, by the Secretary of State for War, and no Officer who may be appointed to the Corps henceforth will be allowed to sell his commission.

Officers wishing to become candidates for Commissions in the Corps, should apply to the Military Secretary, at the Horse Guards, stating their qualifications according to the following regulations :—

The Lieutenant must either be, or have been, a Colonel or Lieutenant Colonel in the British Army, Indian Army, or the Corps of Royal Marines.

The Standard Bearer, the Clerk of the Cheque, and the Harbinger, must either be, or have been, Lieutenant Colonels or Majors in the British Army, Indian Army, or the Corps of Royal Marines.

The Private Gentlemen must either be, or have been, Captains or Subalterns in the British Army, Indian Army, or the Corps of Royal Marines.

The Officers and Private Gentlemen on half pay, are to enjoy the same together with their salaries.

No Officer will be appointed to the Corps under the height of 5 feet 8 inches.

No Officer will be appointed to the Corps above the age of 50.

By Command,

JAMES YORKE SCARLETT,

Adjutant-General.



APPENDIX.

No. 1.

HENRY R.

Forasmochie as the King, oure sovrain lorde, of his greatt noblenesse, wisdom and prudence, considreth that in his reame of England be many yong gentlemen of noble blod, whiche have non exercise in the Feate of Armes, in handling and renying the Spere and other faits of Werre, on horsebacke, like as in other reames and countreys be dayley practised and used, to the greate honor and laude of them that soo dothe, His Highnes hath ordeyned and appointed to have a Retynue daily of certaine Speres, called Men of Armes, to be chosen of Gentlemen that be comen and extracte of noble blod, to th'entent that they shall exercise the said Feate of Armes, and be the more mete and able to serve their Prince, as well in tyme of Werre as otherwise, and to have good wages to leve upon accordingly.

And to th'entent alsoo that evry of them shall knowe howe to order and demeane themselves, His Highnes hath made, ordeyned, and established certaine Ordenances and Statutes following :—

Furst, evry of the said Gentlemen shall have his harneys complete and all other habilements mete and necessary for him, with two double horses at the leeste for himself and his Page, convenient and necessarye for a Man of Armes ; also his Coustrell, with a javelyn or demye-launce, armed and horsed as it apperteyneth. And they shall obey in every condicon the Captaine that shall be ordeyned and deputed by the King's Highnes, or his Deputie Lieutenant, to have the rule and gov'nance of them in all things that thei shall be commanded to doo on the King's behalf.

Item. That they shall make their abode in such places as the King's Grace shall appointe, or the said Captaine, or the Deputy Lieutenant, in the King's name, whedder it be in places nigh his person or elsewhere, upon paine for every such defaulte to lose six dayes' wages.

Item. Evry of the said Speres and Coustrellys shall, at evry time, cary with them their horses, harneys, and other Habiliments of Werre as they have, and shall muster with, not lacking, at any time, pece or parcel of their said Habiliments of Werre, nor horses, upon payne of losing six dayes' wages for every such daye and tyme as he shall be founden in defaulte, being afore commaunded by the King, Captaine, or Lieutenant.

Item. In likewise, that none of the said Speres nor Coustrells shall in no wise departe out of the place where they be assigned to make their abode withoute the special license of the King our Sovraigne Lorde, or of their said Captaine, or Deputie Lieutenant, and to such as license shall be granted unto by the King's Grace, or the Captaine or Lieutenant, and the daye appointed them for their returne, not to faile withoute lawfull excuse of sicknesse or otherwise, duely proved, upon payne of the losse of double wages for every daye as they shall faile in comyng after the daye to them lymited and assigned.

Item. That evry of the foresaid Men of Armes shall furnyshe and make redy twoo good Archers, well horsed and harnessed, and to bring them to muster before the King's Grace, or such persones as His Grace shall appointe, within a moneth at the farthest after the daye that they shall be commanded soo to doo by the King's Grace, or their Captaine or Lieutenant, and not to faile soo to doo, upon paine of losing their Romes, and their bodies to be ponyshed att the King's pleasure.

Item. If any of the said Archers after they be admitted, fortune to dye, the said Speres shall not admitte any other in their place, but shall name oon mete person for that Rome of Archer unto the King's Highnes, and bring him to his presens to be admitted at his pleasure, or else to the Captaine or Lieutenant.

Item. For the wages and ent'teyning of the said Speres and Archers, the King's Highnes hath ordeyned and appointed that evry Spere shall have and receive for himselfe, his Coustrell, his Page, and his two Archers, thre shillings and foure pens sterlings by the daye, to be paid by hands of the Treasurer of the King's Chambre, whiche is appointed by the King's Highnes to paye them the same. And furthermore the said Speres shall receive their wages for them and for their Archers at th'end of every moneth.

Item. The King's pleasure is, that the Lieutenant shall have for the wages and entertaining of himself, his Custrell, Page, and six Archers, six shillings by the daye, to be payed in like manner as the Speres shall be.

Item. The King's Grace woll that the Captaine, or Lieutenante, with suche other persones as his Grace shall appointe, shall evry quarter of the yere, as it shall be the King's pleasure, see the Musters of the Men of Armes and their Company, if any of them lakke horse, harneys, or if any of their horses and harneys be not sufficient as they should be; if thei be not, that they be commanded by the forsaid Captaine or Lieutenante to provide for suche as shall be good and sufficient upon reasonable daye by the Captaine or Lieutenante to be appointed. And such as soo be founden in defaulte, that the Captaine or Lieutenante shall restraine his wages in the hands of the Treasurer of the Chambre till he be sufficiently apparalled of suche thinges as he soo shall lakke, and thus the Captaine or Lieutenante to doo upon payne of the King's displeasure, and losing of his Rome.

Item. To th'entent that the said Speres shall always be in the more arreydynes with their reytynue and suche horse and harneys and other things as shal be necessarye in that behalf, the King's pleasure is, That the Speres shal be redy always to muster before the Captaine or Lieutenante, at such tyme or tymes as they shal be by them :commaunded soo to doo.

Item. It is the King's commandment, That the Speres and their Companye shall observe and kepe good rule and gov'nance, and nothyng attempte againste the King's subjects, contrarye to his lawes, and that thei duely content and paye in redy money for vittalls and all other necessities that thei shall take for themselves, their servants, and horses, upon payne to be ponished after the King's pleasure. And if any of them shall be founde three times culpable in any such defaults, then he or thei to be deprived of his Rome, and his body to be ponished at the King's pleasure.

Item. It is the King's pleasure and commaundement that none of the Speres shall presume to take his lodging by his owne auctorite, but be ordered therein and take such lodging as by the King's Herbergiers, for that purpose deputed, shall be appointed unto them, upon ponysshement aforesaid.

Item. It is the King's pleasure and commaundement that non of the Speres shall geve wages unto any Archer, Coustrell, or Page of any other Spere, nor to reteigne him as his servante excepte he be put to him by his own master, being oon of the said Speres.

FORM OF OATH.

" I shall be true and faithfull subjecte and servante unto oure Soverine Lord King Henry the Eighth, and to his heirs, Kings of England, and

diligently and truely give myn attendance in the Rome of oon of his Speres, and I shal be reteyned to no man, p'sone, ne p'sones of what degre or condicon soever he be, by Othe, Lyvree, Bagge (Badge), Promise, or otherwise, but oonly to his Grace, without his especial license. And I shall not hereafter knowe or here of anything that shall be hurtefull or prejudiciall to his most royal p'son, specially in treason, but I shal withstand it to th'uttermost of my power, and the same with all diligence to me possible, disclose to the King's Highnes, or to the Captaine of the said Speres, or his Deputie Lieutenante, or suche others of his Counsaile as I shall know woll discover the same unto his Grace. I shall not leye to pledge ne putte awaye such horse and harnes as I nowe have mustered with before the King, to any p'sone or p'sones, ne put oute of service any Archer, Custrell, or Page, that I have nowe with me, onles I have before showed cause reasonable soo to doo to the King or the said Captaine, or his Deputie Lieutenante in his absence ; nor I shall know of any of my Company in likewise to leye to pledge or put away any horse, harneys, or Archers, but that I shall showe the same to the King's Grace, his said Captaine or Deputy Lieutenant, in as brief tyme as I conveniently may. I shall also truely and faithfully to my power observe and kepe from this day forwards all and evry article comprised in a Book assigned with the King's Hand, and all manner of Statutes and Ordinances in the same and in evry of them contained. On this, I shall be obeysaunte unto my Captaine or Deputie Lieutenante, and the commaundments I shall observe and kepe at all tymes, soo the same be or concerne the service of the King's Grace. And all suche causes secrete as shall be shewed unto me by the King's Grace, the said Captaine, or Deputie Lieutenante, I shall keep counsaill without discovering of the same to any persone or p'sones till I be commaunded. I shall diligently give my attendaunce, with my Retynue, upon the King's Grace in suche wise as I shall be commaunded and appointed by the said Captaine or his said Deputy Lieutenante, and not absente or departe from the Courte without license of the King or of the said Captaine or his Deputie Lieutenante, in his absence, by the space of foure dayes. And also all suche horse, harneys, and other Habiliments of Werre as I now have mustered with before the King's Grace, the said Captaine or Deputie Lieutenante, be my own proper goods and non other man's ; nor also I shall not muster at any tyme before the King's Grace, the said Captaine or Deputie Lieutenante, with any Archer, Coustrel, or Page, but oonly with such as I have reteyned with me to serve the King's Highnes for the same entent. And thus I shall well and truely observe and kepe, and serve the King in the said Rome of oon of his Speres. So helpe me God and theis holy Evangelies."

No. 2.

First, Her Highnes' pleasure and commaundment is, that as many of the said Gentlemen Pencyoners as be or hereafter shall be ordeyned and admitted, being not lycenced by Her Majestie, the Captaine, Lieutenant, or Standard Bearer, be in the Queen's Chamber of Presence every holy-daye by nyne of the clocke in the forenoone, and every working daye by tenne of the clocke, and there to give attendaunce, with their axes, ready to know what shall be commanded them by the Queen's Majestie, the Captaine, Lieutenant, or Standard Bearer.

The said Gentlemen Pencyoners fayle not to bear their axes and to give attendaunce upon the Queen's Majestie every suche daye or dayes as her Grace shall come abroad to Morninge Prayer, the Procession or Offeringe, and from Morninge Prayer ; to Evensonge, and from Evensonge ; and to keepe the place where Her Highness shall pass to and fro, as large as the roome will serve.

Her Grace's commaundment is, That in Her Majestie's progress tyme or in any other removinge, or yf Her Highness doth ride, the said Gentlemen Pencyoners shall keepe such places as to them shall be appointed by their Captaine, Lieutenant, or Standard Bearer.

The Queen's commaundment is, That as well in her most honorable Chamber as in all other places where Her Highness shall passe by them, and att their boarde, they doe use honest communication, with sobernes, that is to wit, without oathes, or any rage in talke.

That all the whole Band of the said Gentlemen Pencyoners, or as many of them as be resiaunt within the Courte for the tyme, doe accompany the Captain, Lieutenant, or Standard Bearer, from their dyninge or suppinge-place to the Queen's most honorable Chambers.

The Queen's further pleasure is, that evry of the said Gentlemen Pencyoners shall at all tymes be obedient and conformable to all suche service as shall appertaine to the Queene's Majestie, wherein she ought to be served by the said Gentlemen, or by any of them, as well in Her Grace's Chambers as in all other places where her pleasure shall be to be served by the commaundment of such as shall, for the tyme being, have authoritye to commaund and appointe the said Gentlemen Pencyoners, as all other the Queene's servaunts.

Yf the said Gentlemen Pencyoners, or any of them, doe faille the daies of their appearance, in the place and howers before mencyoned, then the checke to be for the first defaulte the losse of three daies' wages, and for the second defaulte the loss of sixe daies' wages, and for the third defaulte the losse of fifteene dayes' wages.

If the said Gentlemen, or any of them, faile their attendaunce the

daies of the Queen's Highnes removinge, as well at the takynge of her horse as at her lightinge, or be absent when Her Majestie goeth to Chappell to Morning Prayer, Procession, or Offeringe, and from Morning Prayer, to Evensong, and from Evensonge, then the check to be like in damages as is expressed in the Article above declared.

The Queen's Majestie's pleasure and commaundement is, That every of the saide Gentlemen Pencyoners shall have his axe borne after him with a sufficient man, the axe being cleane and bright, as well in all places out of Her Grace's Courte as within the same Courte, unto suche place where every Gentleman Pencyoner ought of duty to beare it himself, upon paine of the Queene's Highnes' displeasure.

Whereas the Queene's Majestie's pleasure is, That every of the said Gentlemen shall have three monthes' libertie in the yeare of not waitinge, so they take that libertie by the appointment and knowledge of Her Majesty, the Captaine, Lieutenante, or Standard Bearer, or of any of them ; and when and as many of them as shall obtayne any suche lycense, they shall thereupon, ere they departe from the Courte, give acknowledgement to the Clarke of the Checke, or his Deputie, of the tyme and tymes of their said license, with the returns of the same, or else the said license to be voyde and [they] to be checked for their absence.

Furthermore, Her Majesty's pleasure is, notwithstandinge any licence given to any of the saide Gentlemen Pencyoners by Her Grace, the Captaine, Lieutenante, or Standard Bearer, that the said Captain, Lieutenant, or Standard Bearer, doe always foresee that there shall not be absent at no tyme nor tymes above the third parte of the Band of the saide Gentlemen Pencyoners.

That every of the saide Gentlemen Pencyoners be well and sufficiently provided and furnished of his two great horses for himself and his servaunte, according to his Oathe, with harness and all other habiliments to the same appertayninge, to be ready with the premisses within two days' warning given unto them by their Captaine, Lieutenante, or Standard Bearer, upon payne of forfeiture of tenne days' wages for the first defaulte, and for the second defaulte to forfeit a month's wages, and for the third offence to be clearly expulsed and put out of the rone of a Gentleman Pencyoner, and to lose his whole Quarter's wages.

The Clarke of the Checke, or suche his Deputie as shal be thought sufficient by the Captaine, Lieutenant, or Standard Bearer, to admyt, shall be everye daye in the Queen's Grace's Chamber of Presence, by nyne of the clocke before noone, there to receave the appearance of the said Gentlemen Pencyoners, and also the said Clarke or his Deputy to be at all other placis where the saide Gentlemen shall be appoynted to give their attendaunce upon the Queen's Majestie.

The Queen's pleasure is, That every Gentleman Pencyoner shall pay to the Clarke of the Checke, at the takinge of his Othe, ten shillings, which the Clarke oughte of dutye to have; and that is, to witte, for the givinge of every of the said Gentlemen his Oath, sixe shillings and eight pence, and the other three shillings and fower pence is for the coppye of the same Oathe to them mynistered, as aforesaide, and of all these Articles, to be by the said Clarke delivered to every of the saide Gentlemen Pencyoners.

No. 3.

Orders of King Charles I., 1633.

The Band of our Pensioners having the honor to be our nearest Guard, and to have their daily access into our Presence Chamber, We think fit and ordain that from henceforth they be freely chosen, by our knowledge, out of our best families, and such as have best education, in several counties of our kingdoms, that all our loving subjects of best rank and worth may find themselves interested in the trust and honor of our Service.

And as many of our Gentlemen Pensioners as are, or shall be hereafter admitted, and not licensed to be absent by Us or their Captain, or in his absence by the Lieutenant or Standard Bearer of the Band, shall be in our Chamber of Presence every Festival day, Holy day, or Sermon day, by nine of the clock in the forenoon, and every Working day by ten of the clock, and shall there give attendance with their axes, ready to know what shall be commanded them by Us, or their said Captain, Lieutenant, or Standard Bearer.

They shall not fail to bear their axes, and to give attendance on Us every such day as we shall come abroad to Morning Prayer, and from the same, and to and from Evening Prayer, in the Great Closet, and shall keep the place where We passe to and fro, as the largeness of the roome shall serve.

In our Progresse, or other Remove, when we ride, they shall keep such places as to them shall be appointed by Us or by the aforesaid Officers.

They shall at all times be obedient, and performe all such services as shall appertain unto Us, and wherein we ought to be served by them, as well in Chambers as in all other places where our pleasure shall be to be served, by the commandment of such as shall for the time have authority to command and appoint the said Gentlemen Pensioners, and all other our servants.

If any of them fail their duties of appearance at their days, in the place and hours before mentioned, they shall be checkt for the first fault with the losse of three days' wages, for the second with the losse of six, and the third of fifteen.

In the like manner they shall be checkt if they fail their attendance in the day of our remove, as well at the taking of our horse as at our lighting, or when we go to or from the Chapel, at Evening or Morning Prayers.

The said Gentleman Pensioners shall every of them have his axe borne after him by a sufficient man, said axe being cleane and bright, as well in all places out of Court as within, unto such place where every such Gentleman Pensioner ought to bear it himself, under pain of our displeasure.

Whereas, by Institution and antient Order, every Gentleman Pensioner was allowed but three months' liberty in the year of not waiting, and that by the appointment of the King, their Captain, Lieutenant, or Standard Bearer, and so as ere they departed the Court they should give notice to the Clerk of the Cheque, or his Deputy, of the time of their license, with return of the same, or else the said license to be void, and they to be checkt for their absence;—which Order afterward our predecessor Henry VIII., at the humble sute of Sir Anthony Browne, their Captain, enlarged by Quarter Waiting by course, yet so as the one half of the Band was required continually to attend, withoute any excuse of sickness or otherwise, but that he or they that did fortune to be sick or have any other lete within his Quarter, should, for the time of absence, find one, his companion that was out of his Quarter, to wait and furnish his place, or else to be in danger of the checke, and the other halfe of them for the meantime of their half-year, so by their Quarters to be taken at liberty.

This Order thus enlarged to a Quarterly attendance, with the conditions thereof, we ratifye and confirm:—Notwithstanding any license given to any of the said Gentlemen Pensioners by Us, the Captain, Lieutenant, or Standard Bearer, shall always foresee that there be not absent at any time above half the Band.

The said Gentlemen Pensioners were also required by their Institution to be well and sufficiently furnished and provided every one with his two great horses for himself and his servant, according to his Oath, with his Arms and all other habiliments to the same appertaining, to be ready therewith within two days' warning given to them by their Captain, Lieutenant, or Standard Bearer, upon payne of forfeiture of ten days' wages for their first default, and for the second default to forfeit a month's wages, and for the third to be clearly expelled and put out of the roome of a Gentleman Pensioner, and to loose his whole

Quarter's wages,—which proportion of two great horses was then, in regard of the liberty granted of Quarter Wayting, increased to the finding of three great horses furnished accordingly; and this number, the rather for the late encrease of pay, We require to be furnished by every Gentleman Pensioner for our service in their places, upon the penalty above named.

The whole Band of Gentlemen Pensioners shall give their attendaunce at the four principal Feasts of the year, viz., Christmas, Easter, Whitsontide, and Allhallowtide, and at Saint George's Feast, and at our Coronation Day, under the Cheque as they do now.

And notwithstanding the great liberty of their Quarter Waiting, they are required neverthelesse to be at all times in such readinesse that when warning shall be given them from their Officers, they and every of them shall, according to the same, repair to the Court, and give such attendance for the time as shall be appointed unto them, using for that season, be it in their Quarter or otherwise, no less deligence than in their Quarter they ought to doe.

The Clark of Checke, or such his Deputy as shall be thought fit and sufficient by the Captain, Lieutenant, or Standard Bearer to admit, shall be every day in the Chamber of Presence at nine o'clocke in the forenoon, there to receive the appearance of the said Gentlemen Pensioners. And also the Clark, or his Deputy, shall be at all other places where the said Gentlemen Pensioners shall be appointed to give their attendance for our service.

The accustomed Oath shall be taken by every Gentleman Pensioner at his admission.

They shall be mustered every quarter, or monthly, by their Captain, Lieutenant, or Standard Bearer.

No. 4.

ORDERED,

That the Gentlemen Pensioners who waited on His Majesty into Scotland, that were out of Quarter, shall have such paye in lieu of their service in such journey as those Gentlemen had that attended King James of ever blessed memory, in His Majesty's journey in the like kind.

That the Gentlemen Pensioners shall give their attendance on His Majesty's said service at St. George's Feast and at all other Festival days, whether in Quarter or out of Quarter, as they shall be commanded by the Captain, Lieutenant, or Standard Bearer, as by former Orders have been directed.

No. 5.

CHARLES R.

We have taken notice that some Gentlemen, before our right trusty and well beloved John Lord Bellasyse was made Captain of our Band of Gentlemen Pensioners, have been admitted into the said Band, not qualified as heretofore for that service, which hath rendered the said Band less grateful to Us ; for the prevention of the same for the time to come, We do hereby declare that the said Band of Pensioners, now consisting of fifty, shall be reduced to forty, that shall be continued. And that if we shall think fit to remove any or all of those forty that shall be continued, those that shall be so removed shall receive half pay during their lives respectively, and those that succeed in the places the other half, and after their deaths the whole. That if hereafter any Gentleman of the said Band that quitteth his employment to any other before the admittance of such other into the Band, We will that he be first approved by Us ; and since that by this method the Captain and Officers of our Band will lose the benefit of all perquisites and other incidental profits they now enjoy, that of right belonging to their places, We do hereby further declare that in lieu thereof their wages shall be made equal to the pay of the Officers of the Yeomen of our Guard, which we will shall be done without increasing the annual charge of six thousand pounds, which is the antient wages and establishment of the whole Band ; and that for the satisfaction of the ten for their places, who quite leave the Band, the remaining forty, and the Officers, shall contribute out of their first year's wages, which shall be paid according to this new Establishment, the sum of £1,500 ; and that we will order the payment of their arrears to the said ten in the first place, and the arrears remaining due to the Band so soon as conveniently We may. According to which Declaration We will that the several Wages be as follow :—£1,000 to the Captain, £500 to the Lieutenant, £310 to the Standard Bearer, £4,000 to the forty Gentlemen, £120 to the Clerk of the Cheque, and £70 to the Gentleman Harbinger. Lastly, We do hereby declare that their Habits and Arms shall be such as we shall appoint.

Given under our Signet and Sign Manual, at our Court at Whitehall, the 17th day of March, 1670.

By His Majesty's command,

ARLINGTON.

No. 6.

CHARLES R.

Whereas we have thought fit to reduce our Band of Pensioners, consisting of fifty, to the number of forty ; and from henceforth to reserve to our self the gift of the said places. And if any Gentleman shall hereafter part with his place to any other person, we do approve of such person before his admittance into our said Band. Our will and pleasure therefore is, that the forty that shall serve in the said Band shall be these hereafter named, viz., John Dingley, Edward Herbert, Thomas Hales, Esq., Sir Thomas Roe, Edward Brooke, Esq., Reynold Forster, Richard Harrison, John Root, Esq., Sir Richard Hatton, William Tase, Esq., Edward Alston, Charles Skrimshire, William Cooper, Esq., Sir George Tass, Charles Crompton, John Raymond, Esq., Sir Edmund Barker, Anthony Gundy, Fleetwood Dormer, Brett Norton, William Dickinson, Hugh Tent, Esq., John Kirk, sen., Sir Thomas Gery, Walter Ren, William Foord, Edward Games, John Kirk, jun., Richard Wigmore, Robert Dacres, Charles Radley, Thomas Thatterdine, Richard Wills, Edward Coop, Henry Slingsby, Sir Philip Longwood, Edward Colman, Esq., Sir George Courthop, Roger Conisby, Esq., Sir Philip Honywood, and Thomas Sheldon, Gentleman. And our further will and pleasure is, that the said forty shall receive their annuity wages of one hundred pounds per annum, respectively ; in consideration whereof we do expect that they, together with all the Officers of our said Band, shall contribute fifteen hundred pounds for the satisfaction of the said ten that are to leave the Band, according to the proportion of their several wages : the said fifteen hundred pounds to be detained by the Paymaster out of the first year's wages that they shall be paid, according to this establishment ; and by him to be issued quarterly or half-yearly, as it shall be received, without fees. And we have ordered the payment of the arrears of the said ten in the first place, and the arrears remaining due to the Band so soon as conveniently we may ; which we have thought good to signify unto you, to the end you may take order for the effectual putting in execution one pleasure herein declared accordingly, for which this shall be your warrant. Given at our Court at Whitehall, the 18th day of March, 1670, and in the twenty-third year of our reign.

By His Majesty's command,

ARLINGTON.

To our right trusty and well beloved LORD JOHN BELLASYSE,
Captain of our Band of Pensioners.

No. 7.

CHARLES R.

Whereas application hath been made unto us of late by several of our Band of Gentlemen Pensioners, about several differences between them and our trusty and well beloved Cousin and Counsellor, Wentworth, Earl of Roscommon, Captain of our said Band ; and having fully heard that matter by Counsel learned on both sides, have thought fit to declare our pleasure therein, and do hereby declare it as a final decision and determination of all the said differences, that for the future neither Captain nor other Officer shall take or receive any fee or perquisite for the admission of any Gentleman into the said Band. And further that the said Gentlemen be not obliged to wear or use any other habit, or give any other livery, than such as they themselves shall think fit : and in case of sickness or other urgent occasions, whereby their absence is necessitated, the Gentlemen of the said Band shall have liberty to appoint such of their number as they shall think fit, first acquainting the Captain, or in his absence the next superior Officer, therewith. And as to other particulars relating to the discipline and ordering the said Band, Our pleasure is, that there be no alteration of the duties and services of the said Band, enjoined by the antient constitution and establishment thereof ; only for the present we do dispense with that part of their oaths that obliges each Gentleman to have always in readiness three double horses with their harnesses and other habiliments to the same belonging, until we shall think fit to require the same. And as a mark of our royal grace and favor to the said Earl of Roscommon, and of the sense we have of the constant loyalty of his family to our late Royal Father of blessed memory, and to our self, and of their great sufferings for the same, we are pleased to restore unto the said Earl of Roscommon the freedom and power of disposing of such place of Gentlemen Pensioners as shall be vacant by death, so long as he shall continue Captain of the Band, which hath been enjoyed by his predecessors, Captains of the said Band, in as full and ample manner as they or any of them have enjoyed and practised the same before the last establishment in the year 1670. The said establishment or anything therein contained to the contrary notwithstanding, Provided always that the said Gentlemen who are to be chosen and admitted into the said Band, be brought personally to Us for our approbation before their admittance into the said Band,—the like rule also to be observed when any Gentleman of the said Band shall dispose of his place to any other person. Given at our Court at Whitehall, the 6th of April, 1677, and the 29th year of our reign.

By His Majesty's command,
HENRY COVENTRY.

No. 8.

JAMES R.

The Honorable Band of our Gentlemen Pensioners having the honor to have daily access into our Presence Chamber, as being our nearest Guard and principal military Corps of our household, in which honorable Band our Royal Father in his late civil wars, as well as other Princes, our predecessors, having found great service, as well in the guard of their Royal Persons as that it hath served them as a nursery to breed up the nobility and gentry of the realm in military discipline, and fit them to be commanders in their wars, and we having taken notice that several persons have been admitted into the said Band not qualified as heretofore for that service, which has rendered the said Band less grateful to us, we think fit and ordain that henceforth none shall be admitted to be of the Forty Gentlemen Pensioners in Ordinary but the sons of noblemen and gentlemen of blood, or such persons who by their valour and good conduct in the wars have distinguished themselves as Commission Officers in our forces, and who shall for the term of six months at the least have served at their own proper charge as Gentlemen at Arms, commonly called Gentlemen Pensioners Extraordinary of the said Band.

None that is or shall be a servant, or retained to any person or persons of any degree or condition whatsoever, by oath, livery, badge, promise, or otherwise, but to us only, shall be of the Forty Gentlemen Pensioners in Ordinary, or of the eighty Gentlemen at Arms, or Pensioners Extraordinary of the said Band.

If we or the Captain of the said Band shall think fit to remove any or all of the Forty Gentlemen Pensioners in Ordinary now of the Band, those who have bought their places that shall be so removed, shall receive half pay during their lives respectively, and those that succeed in their places the other half, and after their death the whole.

The Captain of the Band shall have freedom and power of disposing of all places of Gentlemen Pensioners in Ordinary, and of all Gentlemen Pensioners Extraordinary, which shall at any time become vacant, in as full and ample manner as any Captains of the Band have enjoyed and practised the same before the last establishment in the year 1670,—the said establishment or anything therein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

As many of the Gentlemen Pensioners in Ordinary and Gentlemen Pensioners Extraordinary as are now or hereafter shall be admitted of the Band, and not excused by their Captain, or in his absence by the Lieutenant or Standard Bearer thereof, shall be in our Presence Cham-

ber every Festival day or Sermon day, by nine of the clock in the forenoon, and every working day by ten of the clock, and shall there give their attendance with their axes, ready to know what shall be commanded them by us, or their Officers.

The said Gentlemen shall not fail to bear their axes, and to give attendaunce on us every such day as we shall go abroad, and when we go to Morning Prayer and from the same, and to and from Evening Prayer.

In our progress or other remove, or when we ride, they shall keep such places as to them shall be appointed by us, or by their Officers.

They shall at all times be obedient to their Officers, and perform all such services as shall appertain unto us, and wherein we ought to be served by them, as well in our Chamber as in all other places where our pleasure shall be to be served by them.

If any of them fail their days of appearance in the places and at the hours before mentioned, or in the performance of any other part of the duties or services which by us or their Officers they shall at any time be commanded to perform, every Gentleman Pensioner in Ordinary so failing, shall be checked for the first default with the loss of three days' wages, and for the second default with the loss of six days' wages, and for the third default with the loss of fifteen days' wages; and every Gentleman Pensioner Extraordinary so failing, shall for the first default be obliged to perform double duty, and for the second default to perform treble duty, and for the third default to be clearly expelled and put out of the room of a Gentleman Pensioner Extraordinary.

The Gentlemen Pensioners in Ordinary shall every of them have his axe borne after him by a sufficient man, (the said axe being clean, as well in all places out of our Court as within,) unto such place where every such Gentleman Pensioner ought to bear it himself, under penalty of the cheque for every default, as aforesaid.

The said Gentlemen Pensioners in Ordinary being required, by their institution, every of them to be well and sufficiently provided and furnished with his three great horses for himself and his servants, with arms and all other habiliments to the same appertaining; the performance whereof our late brother King Charles the Second was pleased to dispense with till he should think fit to require the same, it is our pleasure that from henceforth the Forty Gentlemen Pensioners in Ordinary and the Eighty Gentlemen Pensioners Extraordinary shall each of them be sufficiently furnished and provided with one great horse, with a case of pistols, a broad sword, an iron back, breast and head piece, with proper furniture and accoutrements to the same appertaining; to be ready therewith within two days' warning to be given them by their Captain, Lieutenant, or Standard Bearer; on failure whereof the Gentlemen Pensioners in Ordinary to forfeit ten days' wages for the

first default, and for the second default to forfeit a month's wages, and for the third default to be clearly expelled and put out of the room of a Gentleman Pensioner in Ordinary, and to lose his whole quarter's wages, and every Gentleman Pensioner Extraordinary who shall fail to be furnished and provided with horse and arms as aforesaid, and to be ready therewith within two days' notice to be given him by his Captain, Lieutenant, or Standard Bearer, shall be clearly expelled and put out of the room of a Gentleman Pensioner Extraordinary.

Every Gentleman Pensioner in Ordinary shall also sufficiently furnish and provide himself with three great horses, with pistols, swords, iron backs, breasts, and head pieces, with proper furniture and accoutrements to the same appertaining, for himself and two servants, whenever we shall think fit to require the same, to be ready therewith within fourteen days' notice to be given unto them by their Captain, Lieutenant, or Standard Bearer; under penalty for every default to be chequed or expelled clearly and put out of the room of a Gentleman Pensioner, as afore mentioned.

The whole Band of Pensioners shall give their attendance at the four principal feasts of the year, (that is to say,) Christmas, Easter, Whitsuntide, and All Hallondtide, and at St. George's Feast, and on the anniversary of our Coronation Day, under the penalty of the cheque.

Our pleasure is, that the Captain and other Officers of the Band do always foresee that there shall not be absent, at any one time, above half the Band, and that the other half, notwithstanding the grant of liberty for their Quarter Waiting, be at all times in such readiness that when warning shall be given them by their Officers, they and every of them shall, according to the same, repair to the Court, and give such attendance for the time as shall be appointed unto them for that season as in their Quarter they ought to do.

The Captain of the Band shall have a due regard that such Gentlemen Pensioners in Ordinary and Gentlemen Pensioners Extraordinary, whom he shall appoint to do the duty of Corporals, Sub-corporals, File-leaders, and Adjutants to the Band, shall henceforth always be such of the Gentlemen as shall have the most knowledge and experience in military discipline, without having regard to their seniority of admission into the Band.

The habits, arms, and clothing of the Gentlemen Pensioners in Ordinary, and of the Gentlemen at Arms or Pensioners Extraordinary, shall be such as We or their Captain shall appoint.

The Clerk of the Cheque, or such other his Deputy as shall be thought sufficient by the Captain, Lieutenant, or Standard Bearer, to admit, shall be every day in our Presence Chamber by nine of the clock of the forenoon, there to receive the appearance of the said Gentlemen

Pensioners ; and also the Clerk of the Cheque, or his Deputy, shall be at all other places where the said Gentlemen Pensioners shall be appointed to give their attendance for our service.

The Trumpeters of our Household attending on the said Band, when they are under arms, shall on every such attendance henceforth be mounted upon white horses.

The accustomed Oaths shall be taken by every Gentleman at Arms, or Pensioners Extraordinary, at their admission into the Band.

The Band shall be mustered, trained, and exercised in military discipline every quarter, or monthly, or as often as the Captain, Lieutenant, or Standard Bearer, shall think it necessary.

The Gentlemen Pensioners in Ordinary, and the Gentlemen at Arms, or Pensioners Extraordinary of the said Band, shall be advanced to be Commissioned Officers in our Army, preferably to all other persons whatsoever.

Given at our Court at Whitehall, the tenth day of February, 1684, in the first year of our reign.

By His Majesty's command.

No. 9.

ANNE, by the grace of God, Queen of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c., To the Treasurer and Under Treasurer of our Exchequer now being. Whereas by Warrant under our Royal Sign Manual, bearing date the second day of October, 1708, We directed payment to be made to each of the Gentlemen of our Band of Pensioners that should attend us in his post on Sundays, or other day of solemnity, at Windsor, of an allowance of six shillings and eight pence for such day of his attendance, and a like allowance of six shillings and eight pence for his charges in coming thither, and six shillings and eight pence more for his like charge in returning back again. And whereas our right trusty and beloved cousin and counsellor, Henry, Duke of Beaufort, hath represented unto us that the Clerk of the Cheque and Harbinger are obliged to the same charges and expenses in their attendance on us as the rest of the Band, but being omitted out of our said Warrant they have had no consideration for their expenses, and that there is no allowance contained therein for the Gentlemen Pensioners, or for the Clerk or Harbinger of the Band, for the charge of their attendance on us at Hampton Court, though they are obliged to the same duty and expense there as at Windsor, all which we having taken into our Royal consideration, do think it reasonable to grant and

allow, that from the year 1709 the Gentlemen of the Band do receive the like allowance for their attendance on us at Hampton Court as is allowed to them by the aforesaid Warrant for their attendance on us at Windsor ; and also that the Clerk of the Cheque and Harbinger of the Band have the like allowance from Lady Day last past, for their attendance on us at Windsor and Hampton Court. And whereas we have resolved that the same shall be from time to time issued at the Receipt of our Exchequer to our trusty and well beloved William Smith, Esq., or to the receiver and paymaster of the Band for the time being, according to Warrants or Certificates to be signed from time to time by the Chamberlain of our Household in that behalf: our will and pleasure now is, and we do hereby command that upon warrant to be signed by the Chamberlain of our Household, expressing the number of the Gentlemen of the Band who have been and shall be appointed to attend upon us at Windsor or Hampton Court, and upon rolls signed by the Clerk of the Cheque, containing the names of each Gentleman of the Band who hath actually attended at these places, you cause payment to be made to the said William Smith, or to the paymaster of the Band, out of our treasure or revenue from time to time in the receipt of our Exchequer, applicable to the uses of our civil government so much as the travelling charges above mentioned shall amount unto, in manner following, that is to say, for what hath incurred and shall incur and grow due thereupon for the attendance of any of the Gentlemen of our Band, at Hampton Court, from Lady Day, 1709 ; and at Windsor, from the time to which the same was last paid ; and also for the Clerk of the Cheque and Harbinger of the Band, for their attendance at Windsor and Hampton Court, the like allowance as the Gentlemen of the Band from Lady Day, 1712 ; which Warrants are to contain the respective days of their attendances in each year ; and not to be for any greater number of our Band's attendance at any one time than have been usual before any travelling charges were granted by us for the same. And this shall be to you and every of you a sufficient warrant and discharge in this behalf.

OXFORD & MORTIMER.

To the Treasurer, &c.

No. 10.

Thus, they were equipped in cloth of gold, and armour of proof, to suit the taste and times of the Bluff Harry. In Elizabeth's reign they were puff'd, and slash'd, and rapier'd, with also a somewhat lighter sort of harness for field work. In James's time they were stuffed and pad-

ded, to keep pace with the Court fashion of that period. In Charles's reign they wore buff and breastplate, and carried petronels at the saddle-bow. With Anne their costume was, as described in the above Order, and in a succeeding reign we shall find them in orders to wear Brigadier Periwigs.

No. 11.

Sir,

His Majesty's Coronation being fixed for the eleventh day of October, I am commanded by our Captain to give you notice that it is his lordship's express command that you attend the said solemnity, on pain of incurring his lordship's displeasure on your neglect. And you are required to be in Westminster Hall by nine of the clock in the morning on the said day in order to your marching in the Procession.

G. TURNER.

No. 12.

Sir,

If you will look into your Old Book of Orders relating to the Band, you will find in those made by King Henry the Eighth, that every Gentleman was to be furnished with two great horses for himself and his servant.

And I think the oath which you make every Gentleman take at his admission, as it is set down in your Book, mentions only two great horses and one servant.

But you will afterwards find, in the additions made by Sir Anthony Browne in Henry the Eighth's time, that whereas they were then bound to find two great horses only, they should from that time forward each of them find three great horses, the meaning of which includes also another servant to mount the additional horse.

In the Orders made by King Charles the First, he confirms the former Order for their finding three great horses.

King James the Second also confirms the Order for their finding three great horses for themselves and two servants.

Therefore the oath ought to be conformable to the Orders, and should say three double horses and two men. For the oath, as it is given now, must certainly have been given wrong, either by neglect or mistake in some former Clerk of the Cheque.

For as you see by all the subsequent Orders from those made by Henry the Eighth, in your Book, and by the Roll of the Band in King

Edward the Sixth's time, that every Gentleman Pensioner had three horses and two servants, it is absurd the oath should not be agreeable to that, though it is what will in reality be never called in question ; but, however, you should administer the oath for the time to come conformable to the Orders of finding three great horses and two servants, and begin with Mr. Monck.

MONTAGU.

No. 13.

Sir,

As His Majesty has done me the honor to entrust me with the command of his honorable Band of Gentlemen Pensioners, so I think it an indispensable duty incumbent upon me to do every thing in that trust which may be for the honor of His Majesty, and of the Band, and not to suffer anything which may derogate from either. The Band of Pensioners, as they have the honor to be His Majesty's nearest Guard, so they are entitled to an honor which no other of his Guards have, which is that of Mounting Guard daily in His Majesty's Presence Chamber, and thereby becoming more nearly entrusted than any other in the immediate Guard of His Majesty's sacred person.

This honor was first granted to the Band by King Henry VIII., and was confirmed by King Charles I., King Charles II., and by King James II.

But notwithstanding their obligations, I have observed this material part of their duty, of daily attendance in the Presence Chamber, has been of late years neglected.

And as I am persuaded it will be entirely pleasing to the Gentlemen to have them maintained in every part of the honorable privileges belonging to them, it is my intention that from New Year's Day next you do take due care that the Gentlemen of the Band do attend every morning with their axes in the Presence Chamber.

By the Articles of the Band, the whole are to attend during Christmas time ; but I shall dispense with the attendance of the whole for this time, provided that all the Gentlemen, who are now in town, do give their attendance on the 1st of January, and that from that time forward five of the Gentlemen do attend every morning in the Presence Chamber, with their axes, from the hour of ten till His Majesty is gone to dinner, and that they also attend, with their battle axes, in the Presence Chamber every Drawing Room night, and other public nights, from eight o'clock in the evening till His Majesty is retired, and always to stand to their arms when any of the Royal Family or Captain pass by.

MONTAGU.

PEGGE'S DESCRIPTION OF THE AXE.

The ancient weapons of the Gentlemen Pensioners, and which they still continue to carry, are their axes. These weapons are extremely handsome, and somewhat curious in form and fashion. The heads resemble the ancient axes formerly used in close onset with the enemy ; the offensive part is smaller, for ease and convenience, though the shaft is longer for state ; so that they might be more properly termed pole axes, they being elongated battle axes. This weapon was formerly a part of the royal equipment in war, and Kings are generally drawn, in old portraits, battle axe in hand. At funerals, both of our Kings, and even Queens, the axe was carried with great pomp, and offered together with the rest of the armorial regalia at the altar. Thus at the interment of King Henry VII., "Sir David Owen carried the King's helmet, after whom rode Sir Edward Howard, the second son of the Earl of Surrey, Treasurer of England, armed complete with the King's harness, his face discovered, bearing in his hand the King's battle axe, the head downwards, resting on his foot." Again, at the funeral of Queen Mary, "after the persons who bore the helmet and crest, the Man of Arms, the Lord Sheffield, came riding, armed at all points, saving the head, with a pole axe in his hand." The axes of the Pensioners are represented somewhat differently from any others we have had opportunity of observing, in Vandyck's sketch of the Procession of the Knights of the Garter, 1639. The axes there have rather the form of adzes, without any pike or horizontal points, as at present, the shaft quite plain and unornamented ; whereas, even in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, in the Hunsdon painting, they come much nearer those now in use. In the reign of Charles II. the axes seem entirely to have assumed their present shape, as we may discern from the representation of a Procession of the Knights of the Garter, by Ashmole. On a demise of the Crown, or on the death of a Queen Consort, the Band of Pensioners attend the funeral, and flank the canopy, carrying their axes reversed, and on these occasions the axes are put in mourning ; that is to say, their tufts black, and shafts covered with black velvet, studded with black nails, in place of their usual covering of crimson velvet, ornamented with gilt nails, &c.—PEGGE.

No. 14.

Sir,

You are hereby required to give notice to the Gentlemen of the Band, that they put themselves in mourning for the Queen by Sunday, the 4th day of December next ; and that they have for their mourning a scarlet cloth coat, trimmed with black, with sleeves faced with black cloth, without buttons on the sleeves or pockets, with a black cloth waistcoat and breeches, cambric weepers broad hemmed, shammy gloves, crape hatbands, black swords, buttons, and buckles, and you are also to signify to the Gentlemen that their axes be covered with black velvet. Given under my hand, the day and year above said.

MONTAGU.

To GEORGE TURNER, Esq., Clerk of the Cheque
to the Band, &c.

No. 15.

Sir,

The Band of Gentlemen Pensioners are to proceed at four o'clock in the afternoon in a body to the Prince's Chamber, to take upon them the guard of Her late Majesty's Body, and to accompany the same during the funeral. Twenty Gentlemen Pensioners are to march near the Body, ten on each side thereof, with their axes reversed, and the remaining part of the Band are to march behind the late Queen's Bedchamber Women, immediately before the Yeomen of the Guard.

The Band being come to the Prince's Chamber, the twenty Gentlemen who are to have the immediate guard of Her late Majesty's Body, are to range themselves against the wall on each side of the same room, as near to the Body as can conveniently be, ten on one side of the room with the Lieutenant of the Band at their head, and ten on the other side with the Standard Bearer at their head. Upon the commencement of the march the said Officers are to post themselves in the rear of their ranks, and the Gentlemen Pensioners are to reverse their arms.

The remaining part of the Band are to range themselves on the stairs leading from the Prince's Chamber to the Palace Yard, under the command of the Clerk of the Cheque.

When the Body shall proceed, the Officer on the right shall march equal with the head of the Body, and the tenth Gentlemen Pensioner from the Officer is to march upon an equal line with the Lord Chancellor, before the Body, and the Officer and Gentlemen Pensioners on the left are to observe the same manner of marching,

The Captain being appointed one of the Pall Bearers, the Lieutenant of the Band of Pensioners is to march in the rear of the ten Gentlemen Pensioners who walk on the right side of the Body, and the Standard Bearer of the Band is to march in the rear of the ten Gentlemen who walk on the left side of the Body.

The Gentlemen Pensioners who walk on the right side of the body, are to bear their Arms reversed in their right hands, and those who march on the left side are to bear their axes reversed in their left hands.

The remaining part of the Band, who are to be ranged on the stairs leading from the Prince's Chamber to Palace Yard, are to march two a-breast, with their axes erect, with the Clerk of the Cheque at their head, immediately after the late Queen's Bedchamber Women, and before the Yeomen of the Guard.

When the Body is set down in King Henry the Seventh's Chapel, the Gentlemen Pensioners who marched on each side thereof in the Procession, are to recover their axes, and stand during the service in the same order in which they marched in the Procession, and the Officers are to post themselves at the head of their ranks, next to the chief mourner.

The remaining part of the Band, with the Clerk of the Cheque, who marched in the Procession behind the late Queen's Bedchamber Women, are as soon as they are entered King Henry the Seventh's Chapel, to draw up in one rank, just within the door of the Chapel, and facing the tomb of King Henry the Seventh.

When the ceremony is over, the twenty Gentlemen of the Band who marched on each side of the Body to the Chapel, are to march back with the Officers at their head, the Captain to march immediately behind the chief mourner on the right of her train, and the Lieutenant and Standard Bearer on each side, in a line with the chief mourner, the Gentlemen Pensioners marching with their axes erect, in the rear of the Officers, and shall extend themselves at equal distances from each other, so as that the last of the ten Gentlemen Pensioners on each side be equal in a line with the last of the sixteen ladies, assistants to the chief mourner.

And the remaining part of the Band are also to march immediately before the Yeomen of the Guard.

MONTAGU.

No. 16.

I. Every Sunday, and on all other days when the attendance of the whole Band, or of all the Gentlemen in the Quarter's wait, is required on His Majesty at Saint James's, the Axe Keeper is to take care to set their axes ready for them in the Presence Chamber, where they attend; and when their attendance is over, he is to lock them up in the chest placed in the Guard Chamber for that purpose.

II. When the King receives the Sacrament, after the Gentlemen have guarded His Majesty from the Presence Chamber to his closet, he is to remove the axes into the ante-chapel, where the Gentlemen attend His Majesty's coming to receive or offer.

III. When the King goes to the Parliament House, the Axe Keeper must have the axes there, and place them on the stairs leading up to the Prince's Chamber, and when their attendance is over he is to carry the axes back to Saint James's.

IV. When His Majesty removes to any of his Palaces out of town, the Axe Keeper is to give the whole Band notice, and to remove a sufficient number of axes to such places where His Majesty shall reside.

V. When the whole Band, or twenty of them, are in waiting, the Axe Keeper is to wait in the Guard Chamber adjoining to the Presence Chamber, in which the Gentlemen wait, and not to depart the room till the Gentlemen are discharged their attendance: and at the Parliament House he is in like manner to wait on the inside, close to the door leading up to the stairs to the Prince's Chamber, and to give notice of the King's arrival.

VI. He must always give the respective Gentlemen notice when they come into their quarterly and weekly waiting, and also he must always give notice whose turn it is out of their quarterly waiting to attend His Majesty at the Parliament House, in the places of the five Gentlemen who are to wait on such days at St. James's.

VII. He is to give the Officers, Gentlemen in Waiting, and Gentleman Harbinger, notice whenever the Court goes into close mourning, second mourning, and out of mourning.

VIII. He is to inform himself and give notice at all times when the King goes to the Parliament House, and to summon the Gentlemen whose turn it shall be to attend there.

IX. He is also to inform himself and give notice to the whole Band to attend whenever the King gives any audiences or receives addresses on the Throne. And also for the whole Band to attend every Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Twelfth Day, the King and Queen's birth days,

and the birth days of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales.

X. Whenever the Captain, or in his absence the next Commanding Officer, shall give any orders, and the same be communicated by the Clerk of the Cheque to the Axe Keeper, he is to acquaint the Officers and the rest of the Band with the same.

No. 17.

At the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 1st day of November, 1760,

By the Right Honorable the Lords of the Committee of Council
appointed to consider of His late Majesty's Funeral :

It is this day ordered by their lordships that the Right Honorable the Lord Berkeley, of Stratton, Captain of the Band of Pensioners, do direct the said Band to attend at the foot of the Prince's Chamber, at Westminster, at seven o'clock in evening of the eleventh instant, being the time appointed for the Interment of His late Majesty, in order to receive the body, and to be afterwards disposed of in the following manner, viz., that ten of the said Band do march with their axes reversed on one side of the canopy which is to be carried over His late Majesty's body, and ten on the other side in the like manner ; and the remaining part of the Band, with their axes erect, do fall in at the close of the Procession, next before the Yeomen of the Guard.

W. SHARPE.

No. 18.

To the Honorable the Commons of Great Britain in
Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the Gentlemen belonging to the Honorable
Band of Pensioners,

Sheweth,

That your Petitioners having perused the Bill before this Honorable House "For enabling His Majesty to discharge the debt, contracted upon the Civil List Revenues, and from preventing the same from being in arrear for the future, by regulating the mode of payment out of the said Revenues, and by suppressing or regulating certain offices therein

mentioned, which are now paid out of the Revenues of the Civil List," are under the greatest concern to find it proposed to be enacted by such Bill, "That all Commission and other Officers belonging to the Band of Gentlemen Pensioners, under the Captain of the Band, as also the vacancies in the Band of Gentlemen Pensioners, should not be sold, but that the Officers and private Gentlemen of the Band of Pensioners should be filled only by Officers in the Army or Navy upon half-pay."

That your Petitioners beg leave to inform this Honorable House that it has been customary for many years past to purchase the office or place of a private Gentleman of the Band of Pensioners, and to sell the same (with the approbation of the Captain) as occasion offered.

That in confidence of being permitted to sell such office or place, your Petitioners have been induced to give, on an average, one thousand guineas for the same.

That the salary of such office or place, after payment of the land-tax and other outgoings, seldom producing more than the net annual sum of seventy-nine pounds, and the expense of the necessary regimental or uniform dress of your Petitioners being deducted thereout, reduces the income to about seventy-six pounds per annum.

That many of your Petitioners being gentlemen of small fortunes, and having little else to depend on than this income, and some of your Petitioners being married and having children, will be very much distressed if they should not be permitted to sell their offices or places.

Your Petitioners therefore, with the greatest deference, submit their case to the justice and wisdom of this Honorable House, trusting that on due consideration they shall have such indemnities and relief in the Premises as to this Honorable House shall seem meet.

And your Petitioners shall ever pray.

No. 19.

Sir,

I have it in command from our Captain, the Earl of Leicester, to acquaint you that your personal attendance, and that of every Gentleman of the honorable Band, is required at St. Paul's Cathedral, by ten o'clock of the morning of Thursday, the 23rd of April, that day being appointed for a General Thanksgiving to Almighty God for the happy Restoration of His Majesty's Health:—all excuses apart, except that of inability through sickness or infirmity, which must be properly certified by medical men. In receiving their Majesties, the Gentlemen

are to stand in an agreeable posture, those of the same size being placed next to each other in two exact equal lines, at the distance of their axe arm extended from each other, and to suffer no person to stand before or between them, that they march with as much decency and regularity as possible in following their Majesties, and that eight of them attend on each side of the Throne during Divine Service.

No Gentleman must be absent from St. Paul's, without leave of the Earl of Leicester, before the duty is over.

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

H. HAYWARD,

Clerk of the Cheque.

WILLIAM SANDS, Esq., Premier Gentleman Pensioner.

No. 20.

Lord Chamberlain's Office, July 4, 1814.

My Lord,

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent purposing to go in Procession to St. Paul's on Thursday, the 7th instant, I have to request that your lordship will give the necessary orders for the attendance of the Gentlemen Pensioners upon His Royal Highness on that day.

I have the honor to be, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient servant,

HERTFORD.

The EARL OF COURTTOWN, Captain.





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